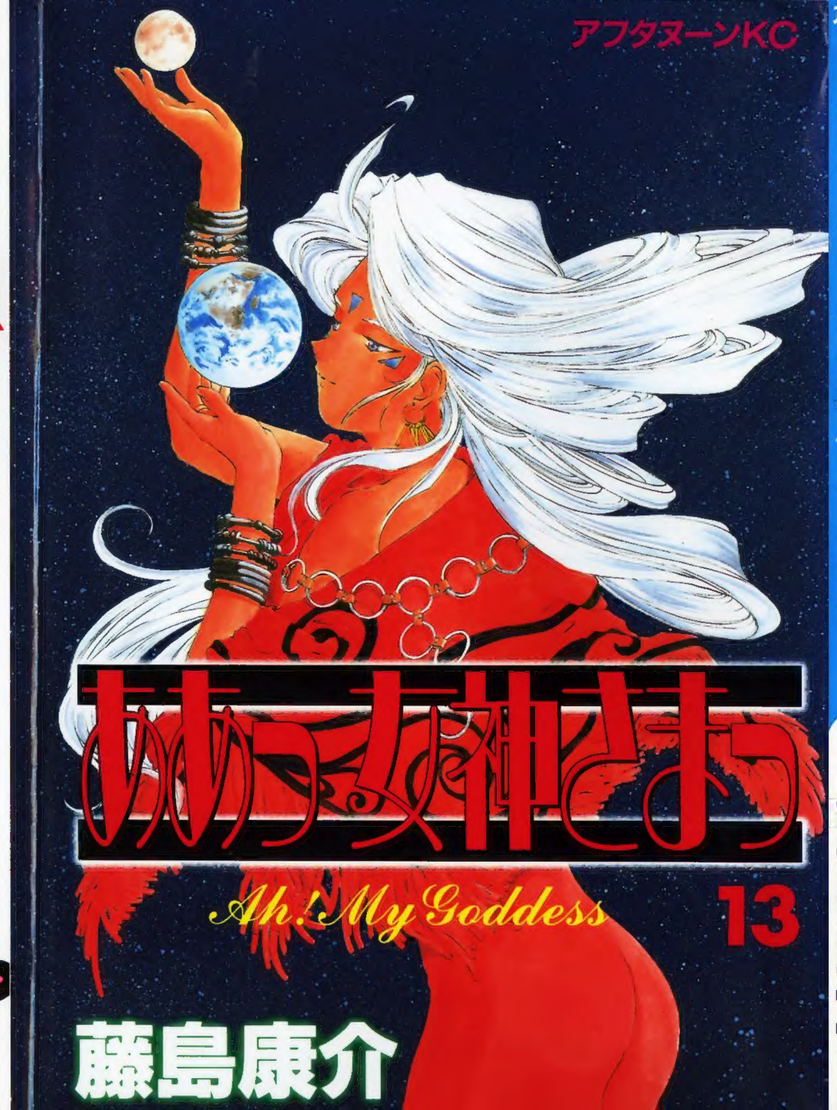

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ああっ女神さまっ

13

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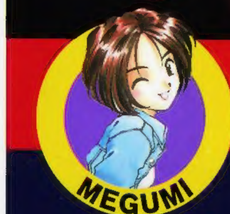

藤島康介
KOSUKE
FUJISHIMA

右手　。
オートバイのスロットルグリップを
ひねったり,
ゲームのコントロールボタンを
押したり,
うっかり間違えて,
瞬間接着剤で
接着しちゃったり,
と色々大活躍の右手ですが,
一番の活躍は,
この漫画を描いている
という事なのは,
言うまでもありますまい。
うーんペンダコがイカスぜ。

アフタヌーンKC

ああっ女神さまっ

Ah! My Goddess

13

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AH! MY GODDESS

Presented by
Kosuke Fujishima

Vol. 13

Urd With Gerbera

ガーベラの花言葉は神秘

AH! MY GODDESS

Presented by Kosuke Fujishima

Vol. 13

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女王さまは女神不信!?
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初代部長がやってきたっ
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chapter.77
乙女でいこう!!
P.153

DARK HORSE COMICS

Manga

KOSUKE FUJISHIMA'S

Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ

Childhood's End

OH MY GODDESS! PART VIII

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1 of 2

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Skuld

Goddess Second Class (Limited). Belldandy's little sister. Very smart, slightly bratty.

The Almighty

Almighty.

The story so far:

In order to teach Skuld to be more self-reliant, Belldandy refuses to use her goddess powers to help Skuld learn to ride a bicycle . . .

Oh My Goddess! Part VIII #1, January 2000. Published by Dark Horse Comics, Inc., 10956 SE Main St., Milwaukie, OR 97222.

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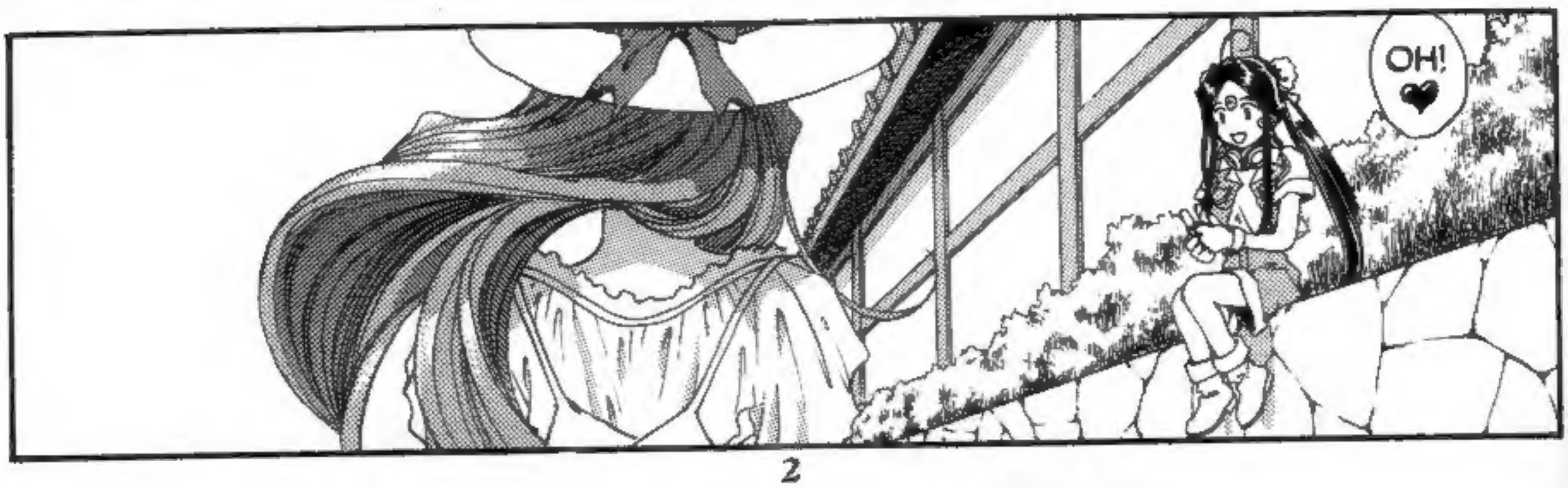
Childhood's End

♫♪♫


OH!
❤

HEY, SIS!

HOW WAS YOUR TRIP?

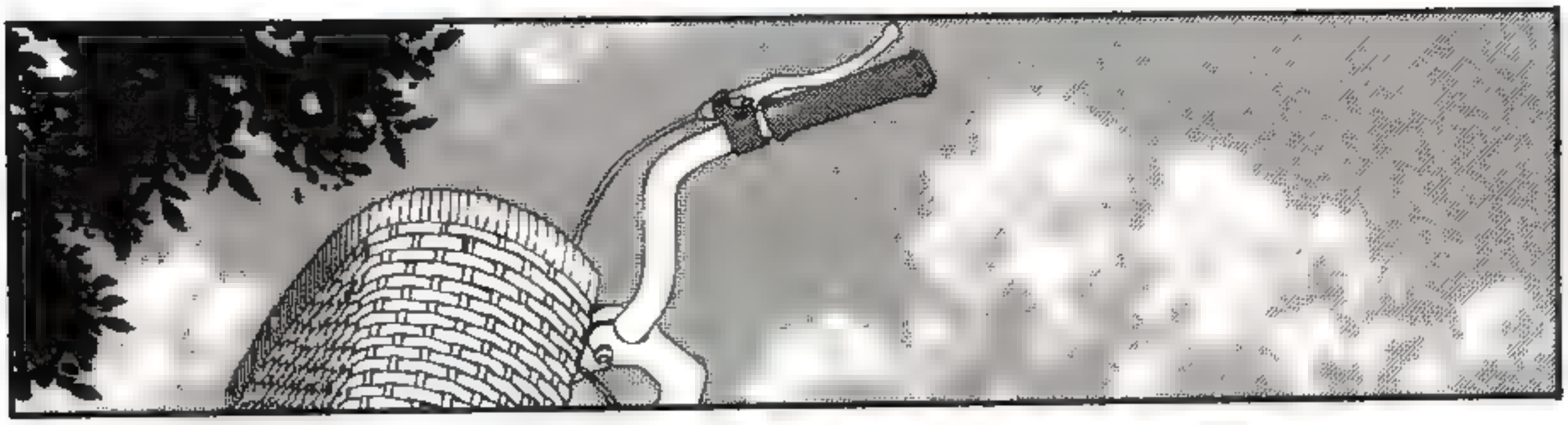
GREAT, SKULD!

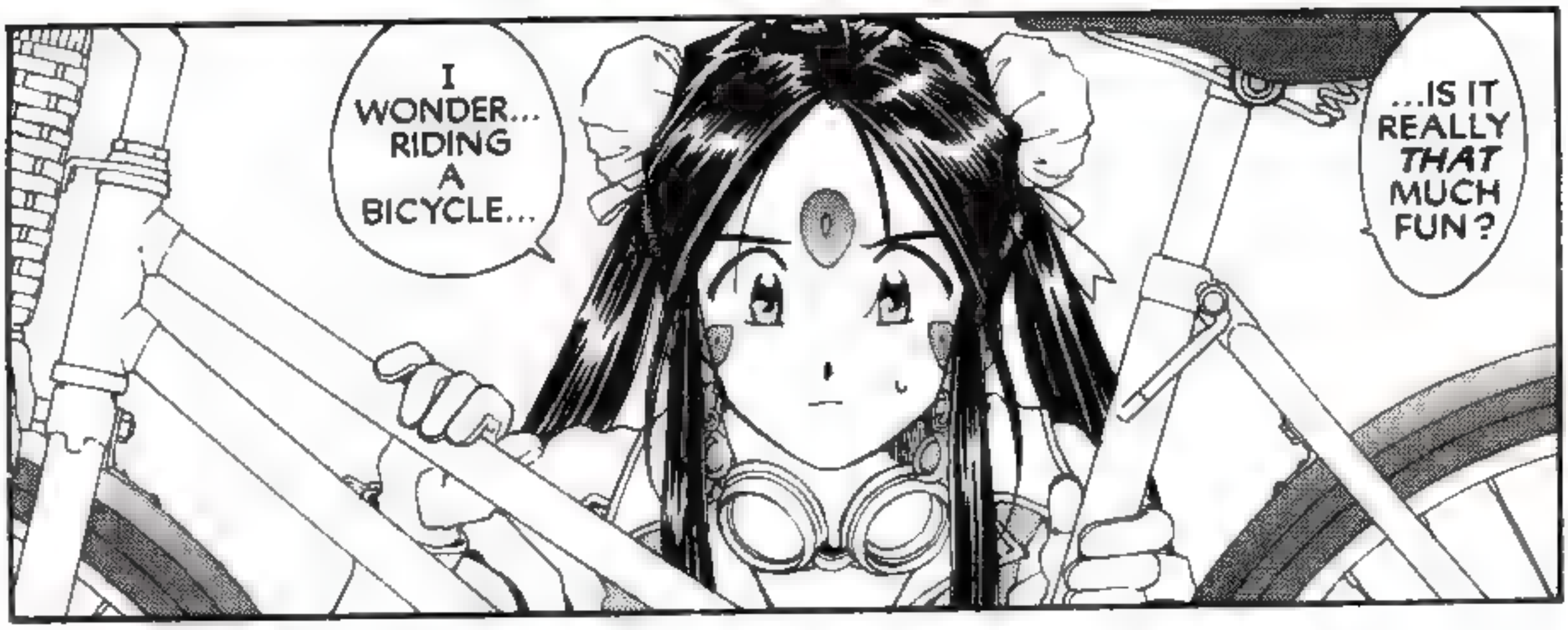
I BROUGHT BACK SOME ICE CREAM FOR YOU!

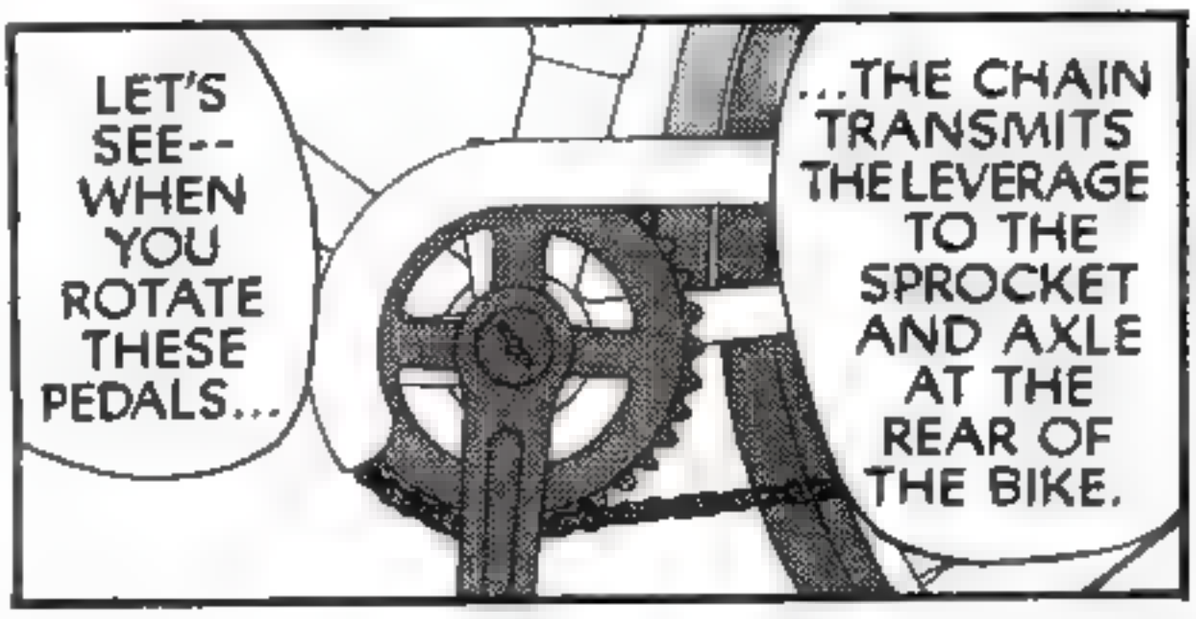
YAHOO!

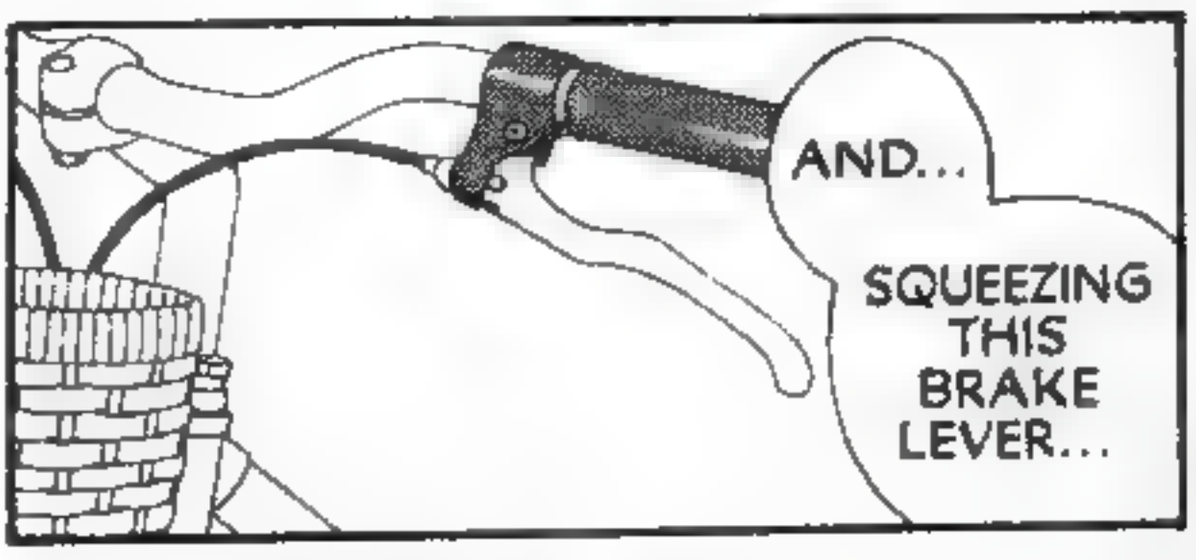
BELLDANDY... YOU LOOK SO HAPPY.

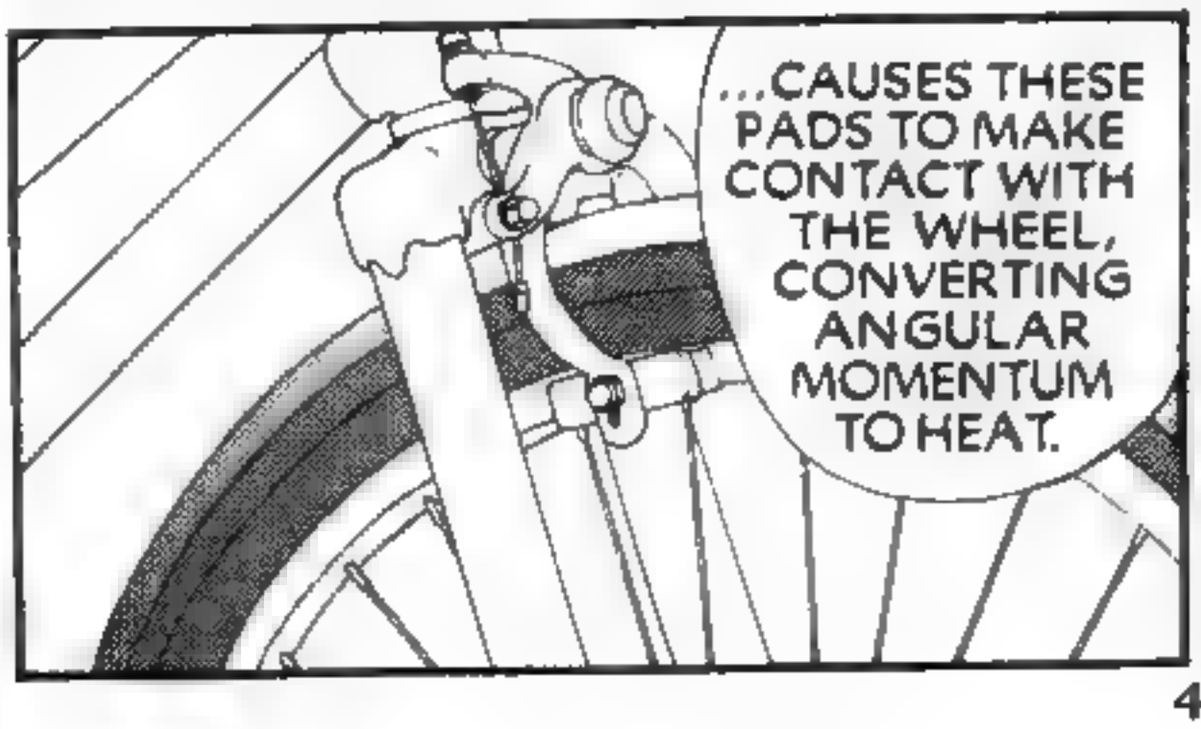
....
....




I WONDER... RIDING A BICYCLE...
...IS IT REALLY *THAT* MUCH FUN?


LET'S SEE-- WHEN YOU ROTATE THESE PEDALS...
...THE CHAIN TRANSMITS THE LEVERAGE TO THE SPROCKET AND AXLE AT THE REAR OF THE BIKE.


AND...
SQUEEZING THIS BRAKE LEVER...


...CAUSES THESE PADS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE WHEEL, CONVERTING ANGULAR MOMENTUM TO HEAT.

NO SHOCK ABSORBERS, BUT IN THEIR PLACE, AIR-BLADDER TIRES AND A SPRING SUSPENSION FOR THE SEAT.
I WONDER WHY THE FRAME ISN'T MORE PERFECTLY TRIANGULAR? STRANGE.
NOW, *THIS* JOINT COULD USE SOME IMPROVE-MENT.
HMM. EXTREME SIMPLICITY, YET STRANGELY LOGICAL.

YOU WANNA TRY A RIDE?

A RI--?!

NO! I ABSO-LUTELY DO NOT WANT A RIDE!

I... I WAS MERELY EXAMINING A TECHNO-LOGICAL ARTIFACT!

AH. I SEE.

TEE HEE

GEEZ. EVEN BELL-DANDY THINKS I'M

OH, I *QUITE* UNDER-STAND, DEAR.

AFTER ALL, YOU *DON'T KNOW HOW*... DO YOU?

...!

SO...

SO *WHAT?!* SO LIKE, CAN *YOU* RIDE A BIKE, URD?! *HAH!*

OF COURSE.

THERE IS *NOTHING* I CANNOT DO.

I BET! *LIAR, LIAR, PANTS ON FIRE!*

HARSH WORDS, LITTLE SISTER. AND IF I CAN, WHAT THEN?

I'LL... I'LL GIVE YOU THE ICE CREAM BELLDANDY BROUGHT ME!

La, Dee Dah♫

OH, WELL. IT MAY BE SOMETHING YOU JUST *CAN'T DO,* MY CHILD.

!!

SKREEK

I CAN *TOO!* A DUMB OLD THING LIKE THAT! I BETCHA *ANYTHING!*

OH, *REALLY.* IN THAT CASE...

IF YOU CAN'T DO IT, YOU GOTTA...

...RIDE AROUND THE WHOLE NEIGHBOR-HOOD THREE TIMES--ON A TRICYCLE!

OH, NO, NO *NO!* SHE GOT ME AGAIN!

*NOOO

I'D LOVE TO BE ABLE TO GO ON RIDES TOGETHER WITH YOU, SKULD.

I'D BE GLAD TO HELP YOU LEARN, TOO!

OH, ***YES,*** MY DEAR WONDERFUL SWEET BIG SISTER!

HEY.. WHAT ABOUT ME..?

IF BELL-DANDY'S GONNA HELP ME, I'VE NOTHING TO FEAR!

IT'S A DONE DEAL!

BWA HAW HAW HAW!

I DON'T MUCH LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT...

HAH!

YOU'RE *DOOMED*, URD!

AFTER I LEARN TO RIDE THIS THING, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TRY TO RIDE SOMETHING *I* PICK!!

♫..

I WASN'T ACTUALLY BEING SERIOUS, BUT...

IF SHE *CAN'T* DO IT, WILL SHE *REALLY* PEDAL AROUND THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD THREE TIMES? ON A TRIKE?

OKAY, SKULD, LET'S TAKE IT A STEP AT A TIME.

YES, SISTER DEAR!

YOU'LL DO FINE. I'LL HELP KEEP THE BIKE BALANCED AT FIRST, THEN--

RIGHT!

UH... I MEAN, *WHY?*

"WHY"?

I DON'T NEED *ANYONE* TO HOLD ME UP.

AND THAT'S BECAUSE...

...I'M A *GENIUS!*

WHOA!

OOP

WHOOP! YEEP! *AAH!*

OH, *NO!* SHE'S GONNA CRASH!

TAA-DAA! THE SKULD SPECIAL ACTIVE BALANCER KNEE-PAD!

I *TOLD* YOU I DIDN'T NEED HELP!

SSSHHH

YOW!

OH, GEEZ ...!

FSSHT

FSSHT

FSSHT

HELLLP!! SOMEONE STOP ME!!

=hahh=

=hahh=

OKAY, *OKAY!* APPARENTLY THEY'RE NOT QUITE APPROPRIATE FOR *THIS* SITUATION.

WAIT! I KNOW! I JUST HAVE TO ADD OUTRIGGER WHEELS!

GOOD IDEA! LIKE ONE OF THOSE KID'S BIKES!

ding-a-dingg

K- KID'S BIKES?

WELL YEAH

HEH, HEH, HEH!

NOW WHATCHA DOING?

JUST WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.

I'M INSTALLING A GYRO-SCOPE FOR AN AUTO-BALANCER SYSTEM.

WHY ON EARTH DIDN'T I THINK OF IT BEFORE ...?

HMM... THOSE HILLS COULD BE TOUGH.

BETTER ADD A MOTOR, TOO.

DO ALL THAT STUFF, AND IT WON'T EVEN BE A BICYCLE ANY MORE!

HE'S RIGHT, SKULD.

BICYCLES ARE FUN *BECAUSE* OF THE WAY THEY ARE.

ON A BICYCLE YOU CONVERSE WITH THE WIND.

SOMETIMES SWIRLING ABOUT YOU, SOMETIMES SLIPPING PLACIDLY BY.

"AS YOU PASS FROM THE WARM SUN INTO THE COOL SHADE...

"...YOU CAN FEEL THE VERY DENSITY OF THE AIR CHANGE.

"THE FLOW OF GREEN LEAVES, THE SKY AND THE CLOUDS, ENFOLDING YOU IN THE WORLD AROUND YOU...

"ALL A DIALOGUE THAT BEGINS WITH THE POWER OF YOUR OWN BODY."

AND THAT'S WHY I *ADORE* RIDING MY BICYCLE.

OOOOHH!!

YES!! BELLDANDY, I'LL DO *ANYTHING* TO FEEL THAT WAY!!

WHOA SHE EVEN GOT ME WITH THAT!

GOOD! THEN LET'S GIVE IT ANOTHER TRY!

WHAT'RE YOU STANDING AROUND FOR, KEIICHI!?!

C'MON, YOU GOTTA HOLD THE BIKE FOR ME, OKAY?!

OKAY, OKAY.

EEK! WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK THERE?!

THERE'S NO PLACE ELSE TO PUSH, SKULD!

KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE ROAD!

JUST WATCH YOUR HANDS, BUSTER!

OKAY, PEDAL NOW! LIGHTLY!

RRRG!

LIGHTER! LIGHTER!

GOOD, GOOD! DOING GOOD!

RIGHT ABOUT NOW ...?

WHOA

OOP

HERE WE GO...

AH!

AHH!

SIS ...!!

BELL-DANDY ...?! HELP ME!

EEK!

SKULD! YOU OKAY?!

SHE... SHE DIDN'T HELP ME...?

BELL-DANDY DIDN'T...

OH, GOOD! YOU'RE NOT HURT.

HERE-- LET'S TRY IT ONE MORE TIME.

O-
OKAY.

NO... NO,
I MUST
HAVE
JUST
BEEN
IMAGINING
THINGS.

SORRY,
SORRY!
GUESS I
LET GO
TOO
SOON.

OH,
GEEZ...
I HOPE
SHE
DOESN'T
CRY!

THIS
TIME
HOLD
THE BIKE
RIGHT,
PLEASE!

?

KEIICHI
...?

OKAY!

THAT'S
WHAT
I WAS
THINKING,
TOO.

SKULD...

THAT'S RIGHT... IT WAS A MISTAKE.

BELL-DANDY JUST WASN'T FAST ENOUGH.

?? AGAIN?

....!

W-WAIT!

THAT CAN'T BE IT!

SHE'S JUST NOT DOING IT!

=hahh=

=hahh=

BELL-DANDY ISN'T HELPING ME!

YOU'VE ALMOST GOT IT, SKULD...

SH-SHE DOESN'T UNDER-STAND.

IT'S EASY FOR HER TO RIDE.

REALLY--YOU'RE DOING FINE. BETTER EVERY TIME!

SHE REALLY DOESN'T UNDER-STAND!

IT HURTS SO MUCH WHEN I FALL, BUT SHE... SHE...

I QUIT.

EH ...?

I SAID I *QUIT!*

GODDESSES DON'T NEED TO RIDE BICYCLES ANYWAY!

NOBODY EVER HELPS ME!

GEE... MAYBE WE WERE A BIT TOO HARD ON HER...?

NO.

THE REASON SKULD STILL CAN'T USE HER POWERS...

...IS THAT SHE ALWAYS DEPENDS ON HER MACHINES OR ON SOMEBODY ELSE.

NO, KEIICHI...

...IT'S TIME FOR HER TO LEARN...

...THAT YOU ALWAYS FIND YOUR TRUE PATH ON THE FAR SIDE OF SUFFERING...

"...AND THAT YOU CAN... YOU *MUST*... GET THERE BY YOUR-SELF."

HUH! STUPID BIKES!

WHO NEEDS THEM?!

----!!

WOW ...!

GEE! IS IT OKAY?!

OWW!

YEAH, I'M FINE, FINE.

I JUST KINDA SCREWED UP MY LANDING.

I MEANT THE *BIKE.*

...?

UH, YEAH. THINK SO. COUPLE NEW SCRATCHES, MAYBE.

BUT THAT WON'T HURT HOW IT RIDES.

COOL... YOU LIKE BIKES?

YOUR CHAIN'S A BIT LOOSE.

I'LL TIGHTEN IT FOR YOU.

...!

NOPE. I HATE 'EM.

HUH?

IT *HURTS* WHEN YOU CRASH.

AND MY DUMB SISTER DOESN'T EVEN CARE.

SO WHO'D EVEN WANT TO RIDE THE DUMB THINGS?

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

BIKES ARE FUN *BECAUSE* THEY CAN CRASH!

THE THRILL IS KEEPING SOMETHING UNDER CONTROL WHEN IT WANTS TO WIPE OUT.

OTHERWISE YOU MAY AS WELL JUST RIDE AROUND ON A TRICYCLE OR SOMETHING!

...?

HEH...

I DON'T GET THAT AT ALL.

REALLY?

REALLY.

THEN YOU NEED TO HANG WITH ME A BIT AND I'LL SHOW YOU!

H-HUH?

Y-YOU WANT ME TO DO *WHAT?!*

FORGET IT! *NO WAY!!*

AW, C'MON! IT'LL BE OKAY!

ALL RIGHT! *WARP FACTOR NINE!!*

YAHOO! GREAT, HUH?

WHSSSH

WAAH! WHY DID I LET YOU TALK ME INTO THIS?!

GO FOR IT, ENGINE NUMBER ONE!

GEEZ... LISTEN TO THIS GUY!

BUT... YOU KNOW...

IT'S AMAZING.

SO MUCH SPEED, JUST FROM MY OWN LEGS.

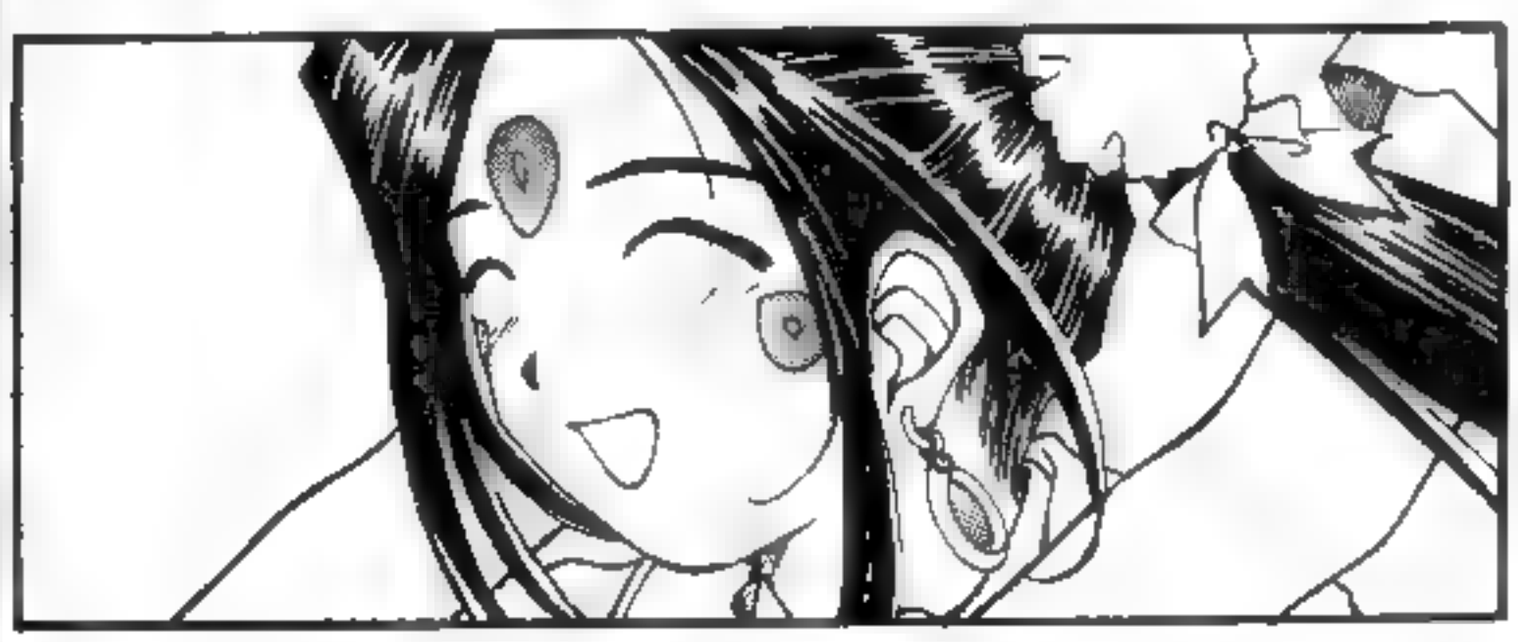
THE SCENERY RUSHING BY IN A BLUR...

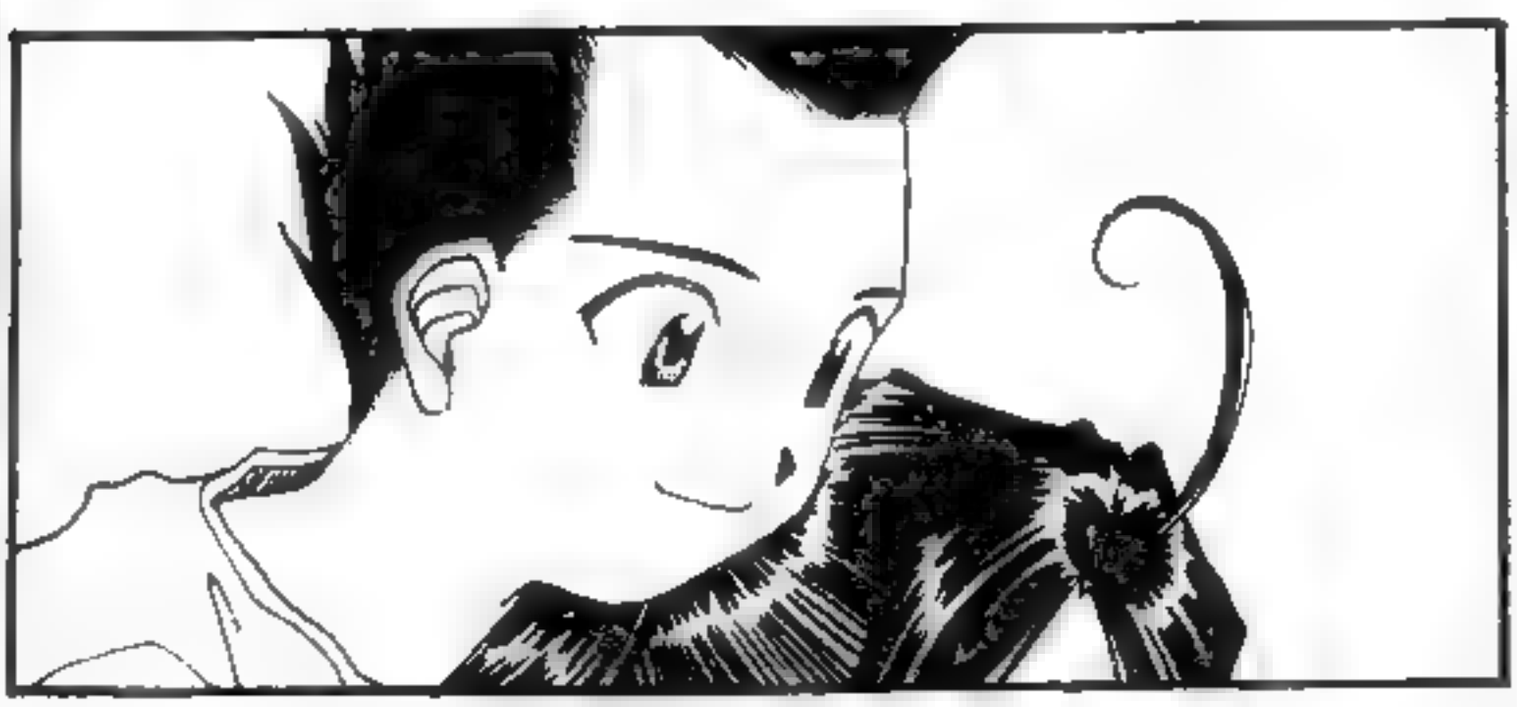
...BUT THE WIND FEELS SO SOFT AND GENTLE.

ALL RIGHT-- SLALOM!

EEK!

YOU KNOW... MAYBE BICYCLES ARE KIND OF FUN!





OH
..?

OH!

HUH
...!?

I... I'M RIDING!

SEE? YOU CAN DO IT IF YOU TRY!

I DID IT!

I DID IT, I DID IT, *I DID IT!*

WOW... AFTER ALL THAT WORK, I REALLY FEEL LIKE I EARNED IT, TOO!

OH ...?!

SHE WAS JUST GIVING ME THE CHANCE...

...TO FIND MY OWN WAY.

AND HERE I JUST THOUGHT SHE WAS...

...

OH, BELL-DANDY!

'SCUSE ME! I'LL BRING YOUR BIKE BACK LATER!

GO FOR IT!

HUH?

HEY.. WAIT A SEC..

BELL-DANDY, I... I'M GONNA BE DIFFERENT FROM NOW ON!

I WON'T DEPEND ON ANY-THING EXCEPT MYSELF ANY-MORE!

=hahh=

=hff=

WHEWW... I *KNEW* IT NEEDED AN ENGINE.

I DON'T REMEMBER THE SHORTCUT HAVING ALL THESE HILLS...

=hahh=

=huff=

I... I WANNA GIVE UP.

SORRY, BELL-DANDY...

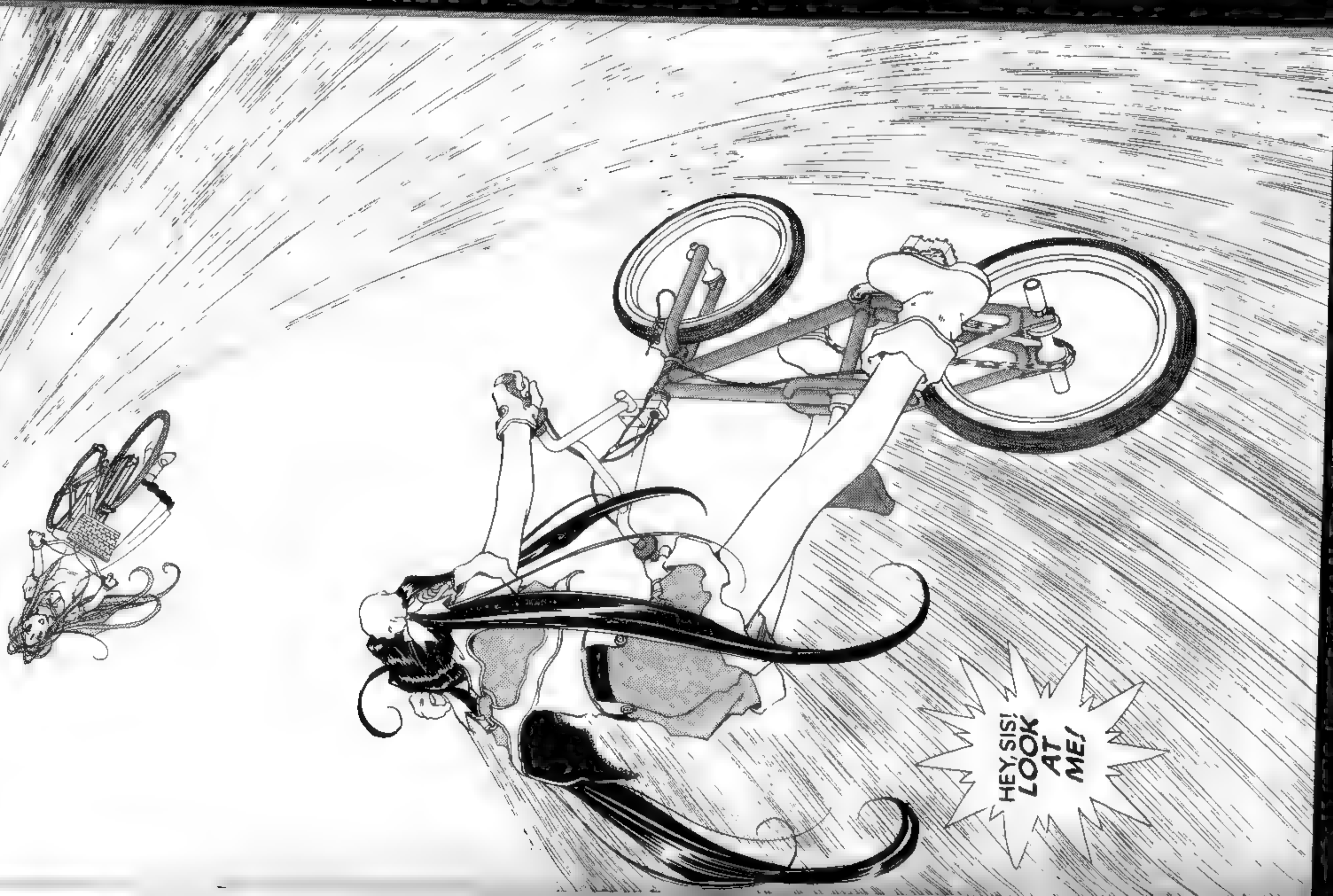
MAYBE YOUR LITTLE SISTER'S GONNA STAY THE SAME OLD SKULD AFTER ALL...

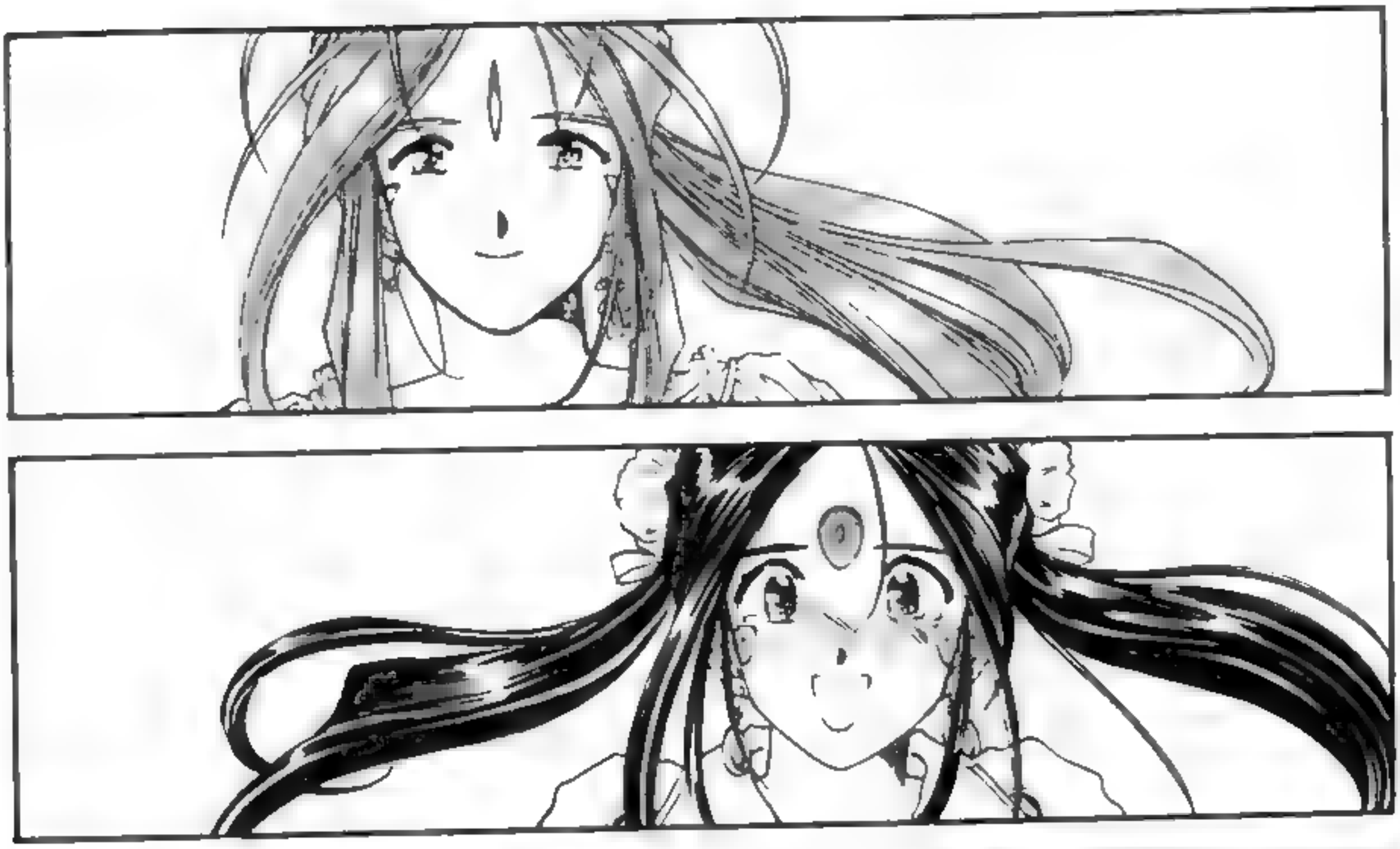
BELL-DANDY...!

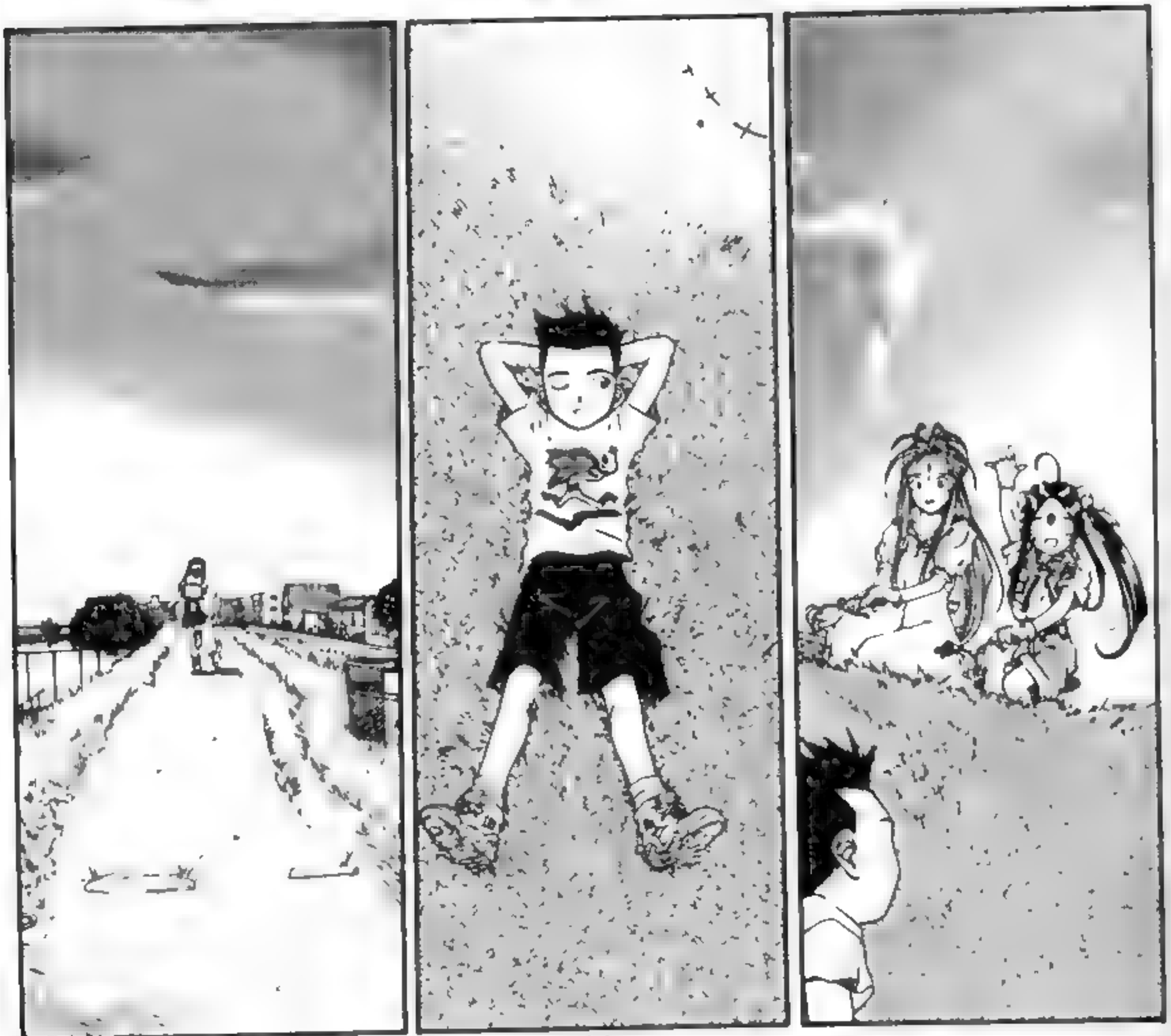
SKULD ...?

WHERE HAVE YOU GONE?

I KNOW YOURE A STRONGER GIRL THAN THAT.


HEY, SIS! LOOK AT ME!





SKULD, DEAR?

YEAH?

SO... DO YOU STILL HATE BICYCLES?

NO WAY! I *LOVE* BIKES!

THEN...

SHALL WE GET YOU A BIKE OF YOUR OWN TOMORROW ...?

YEAH! ❤

AND SO, VICTORIOUS IN HER CHALLENGE, SKULD DEMANDED THAT URD TRY TO RIDE A UNICYCLE AND THEN SAY "I GIVE UP" A HUNDRED TIMES. HOWEVER..

...!

I I GIVE UP

I TOLD YOU, KID-- THERE'S *NOTHING* I CAN'T DO.

WELL, YOU'VE GOT TO GIVE URD CREDIT ...!

NEXT ISSUE: "CRAZY LITTLE THING CALLED LOVE"

Letters to the Enchantress

10956 SE MAIN STREET, MILWAUKIE, OREGON 97222
www.darkhorse.com • omg@darkhorse.com • www.studioproteus.com

Hi kids! It's me, your long-suffering (not really) editor. Sadly, this is my last letters column with you, as this is my last issue of *Oh My Goddess!*, as this is my last week at Dark Horse. Not-so-sadly, I am leaving because I've decided to be a full-time mommy to my new little boy. I am very excited about this, so I hope you'll forgive me and wish me well. I will miss you all very much—this has been a great book with the best fans anywhere on the planet and I feel privileged to have been a part of it. I hope you all keep reading and writing and drawing; and be kind to the new editor, Mike. He's a big fan of manga and will take good care of you! Thanks for making my job easy and FUN! Be good to each other.
Love,

Rachel

Hello! I'm Mike Hansen, the new manga editor. I'm really excited about taking over all of these great series, like *Oh My Goddess!* I'll do my best to do as great a job as Rachel did the last two years. I think we're going to have a lot of fun here, so please keep writing in! (As I'm sure Rachel's told you, you letter-writers are the best!) So I hope we'll get to know each other better over the next few months, and I'll see you all next issue!
—MikeH!

Next Issue

DARK HORSE COMICS

KOSUKE FUJISHIMA

Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ

Childhood's End

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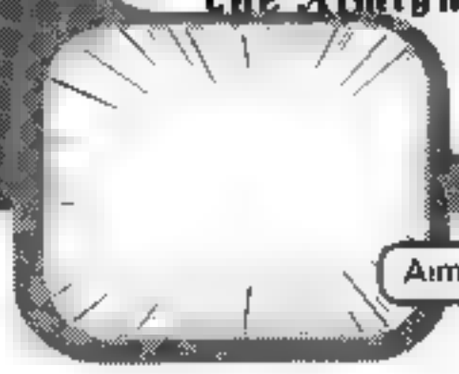
Sentaro

Skuld's young friend who taught her how to ride a bicycle.

The Almighty



Almighty.

The story so far:

Skuld is beginning to develop her powers at last, following her breakthrough learning to ride a bicycle. Her progress is furthered by her feelings for her friend Sentaro . . .

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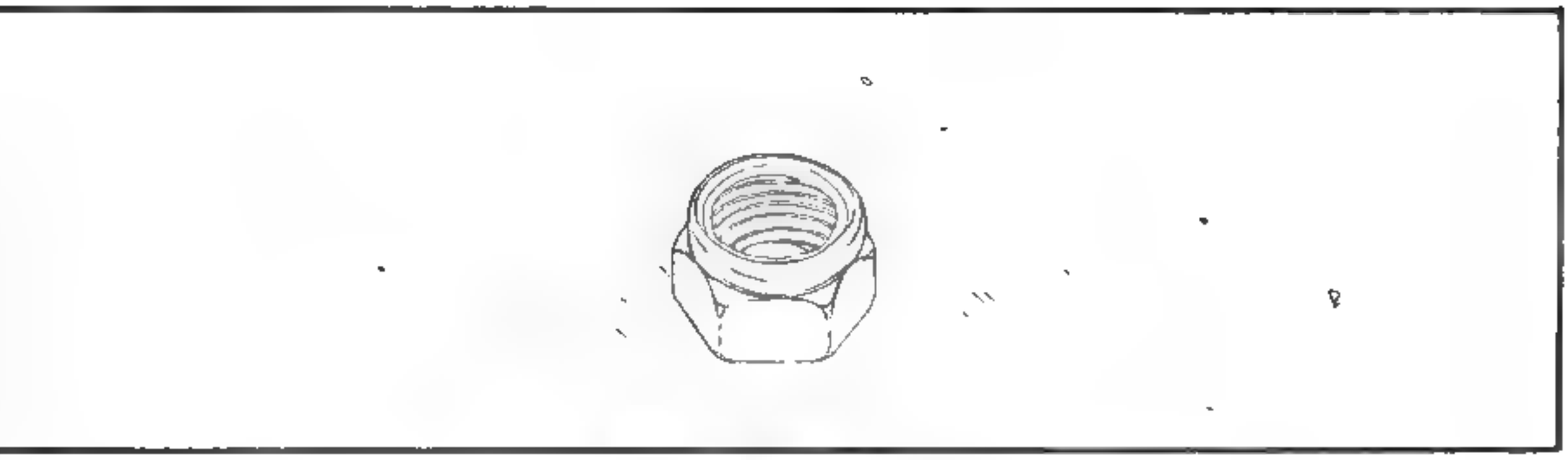
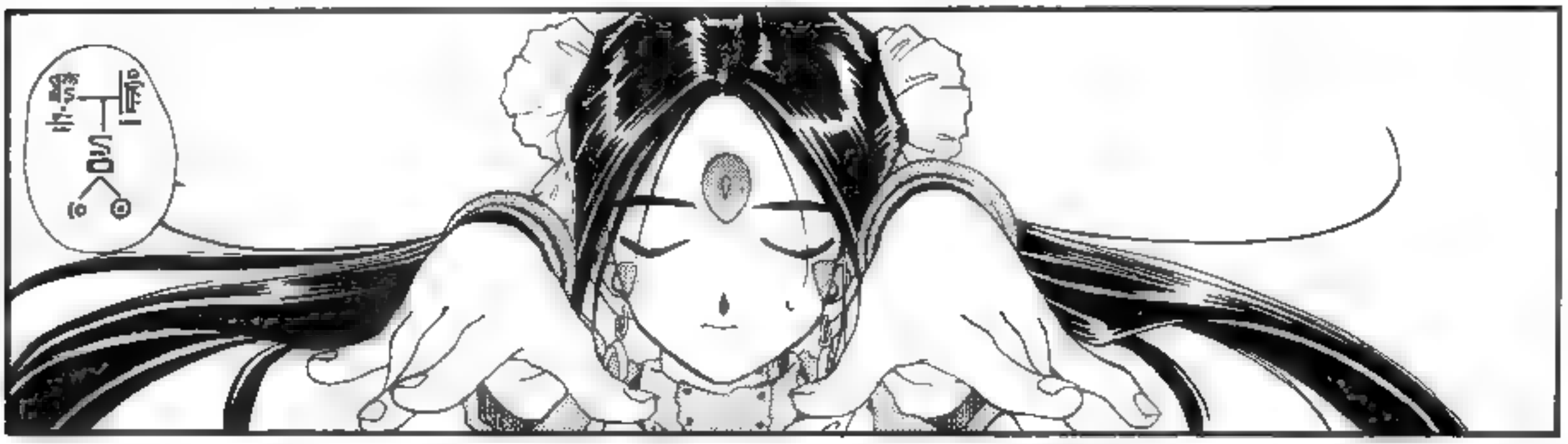
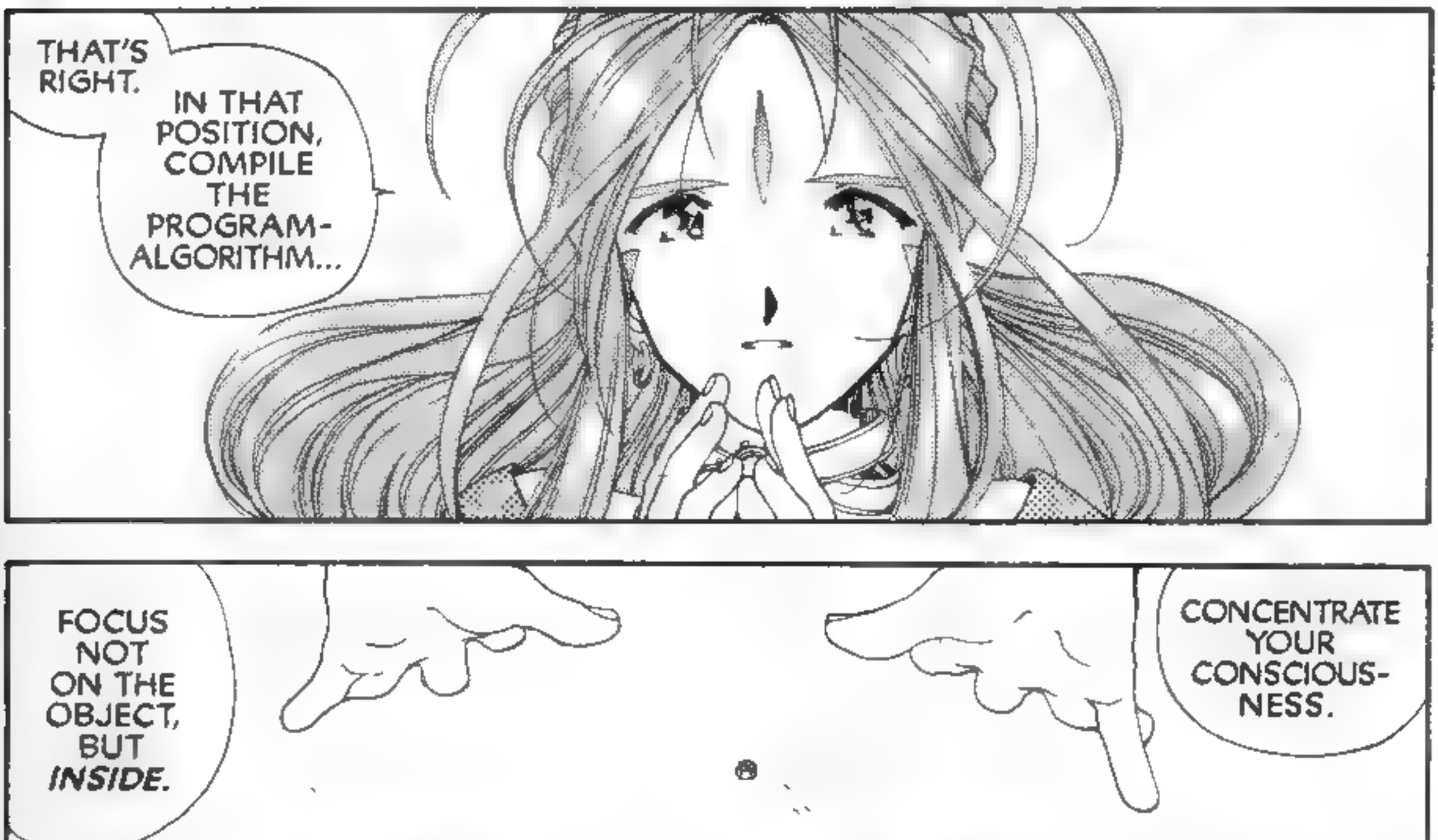
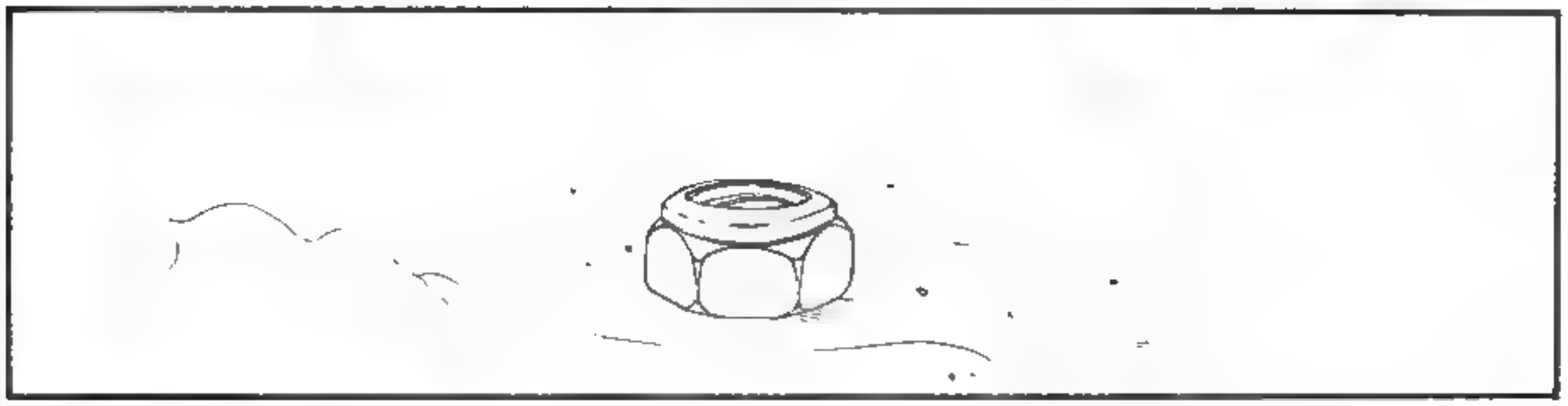


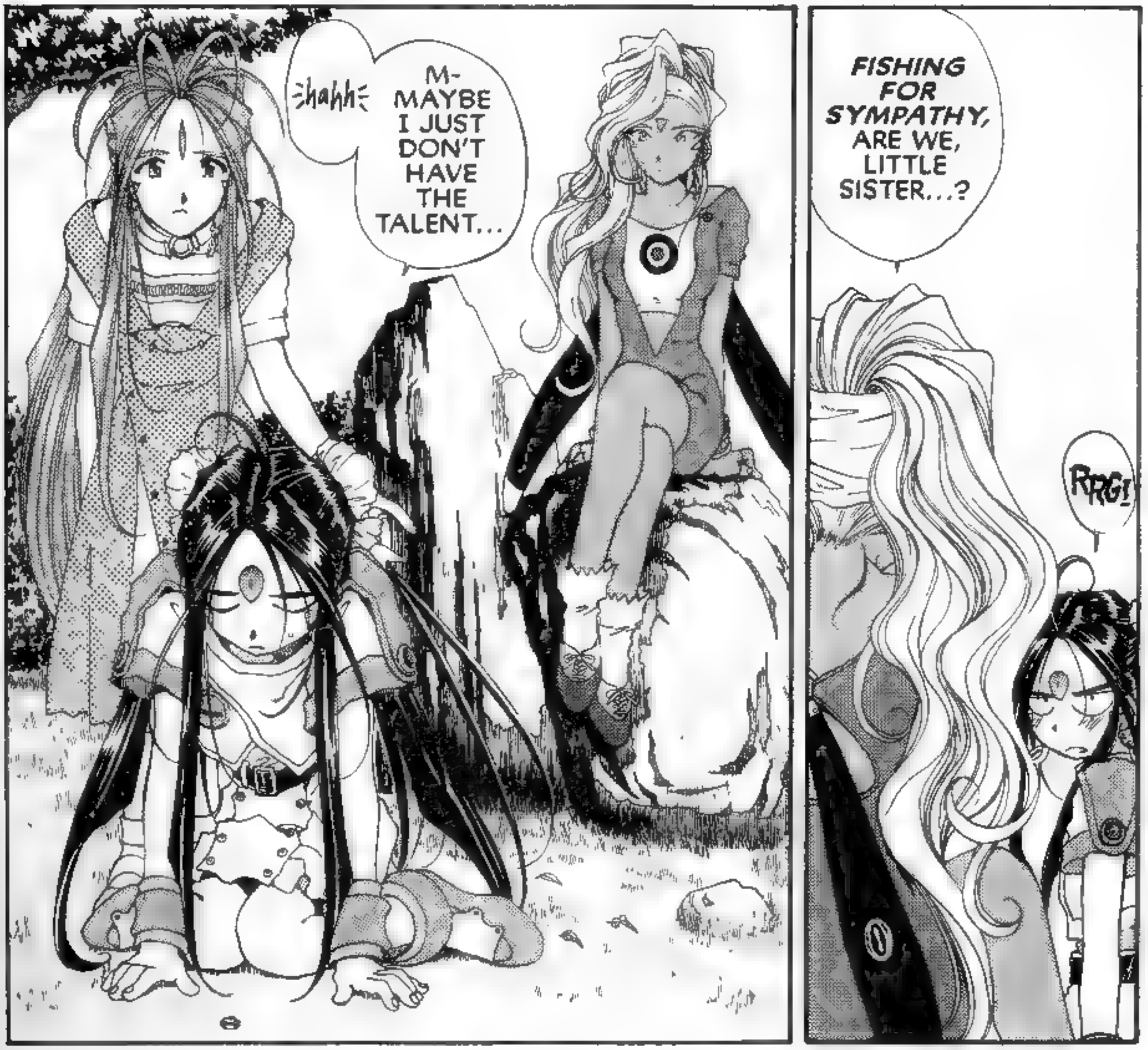



THAT'S RIGHT.
IN THAT POSITION, COMPILE THE PROGRAM-ALGORITHM...
FOCUS NOT ON THE OBJECT, BUT *INSIDE.*
CONCENTRATE YOUR CONSCIOUS-NESS.

THE ALGORITHM IS JUST A GUIDE.
WHAT SPRINGS UP FROM *WITHIN*...

Crazy Little Thing Called Love




=hahh=
M-MAYBE I JUST DON'T HAVE THE TALENT...
FISHING FOR SYMPATHY, ARE WE, LITTLE SISTER...?
RRG!

LOOKY LOOKY. E-Z!

PEOPLE WHO'VE ALREADY DONE EVERYTHING ELSE THEY CAN GET TO TALK ABOUT TALENT.

YOU HAVEN'T EVEN DONE YOUR BASIC HOME-WORK, KID.

YOU JUST *SHUT UP*, URD!!

YES! *THAT'S* MORE LIKE IT!

I SAID *SHUT UP!!*

SHUT UP!

SHE'S RIGHT, SKULD.

IF YOU GIVE UP, ALL POSSIBILITIES ARE LOST.

REMEMBER HOW HARD YOU WORKED TO RIDE THE BICYCLE ...?

!

THAT'S RIGHT.

I NEARLY FORGOT.

BACK THEN, I PROMISED MYSELF...

...I WON'T GIVE UP SO EASY EVER AGAIN.

SO NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I'VE GOT TO *CONCEN-TRATE...*

WHATCHA DOIN'?

YOW!

YO!

S-
SENTARO
...?!

YOU
AGAIN
...?

WHAT A
PLEASANT
SURPRISE!
WELCOME!

NICE
TO SEE
YOU
AGAIN,
MA'AM.

HOW
COME
YOU'RE
HERE
AGAIN?

EVERY
STUPID
DAY
...!

I
LEARNED
A NEW
TRICK,
SO I
THOUGHT
I'D COME
SHOW
YOU.

SO?
YOU
DON'T
HAVE
TO KEEP
COMING
HERE--

OOH,
SENTARO,
BABY!

*SO
GOOD*
TO SEE
YOU
AGAIN!

CUT
THAT
OUT,
URD!

JUST WATCH, OKAY?

CHAK

gssh

HUP!

FWDD

OOOOOOOOOH!

TAA-DAA!

CLAP CLAP

CLAP CLAP

WON-DERFUL!

THAT'S JUST *WON-DERFUL!*

HOW ON EARTH DO YOU LEARN TO *DO* THINGS LIKE THAT?!

EASY!

I LOVE IT!

WH... WHY IS THAT EVERY TIME I HEAR THE WORD "LOVE" THESE DAYS, MY HEART JUMPS...?

IS IT THAT WORD? "LOVE" ...?

YES... IT'S LIKE A SWITCH FOR MY HEART.

FOR SHAME, SKULD!

YOU DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!

YOU HAVE TO *CON-CEN-TRATE!*

CONCEN--

!

ARE YOU OKAY, SKULD? YOUR FACE IS SO RED!

MAYBE YOU GOT HEATSTROKE ...?

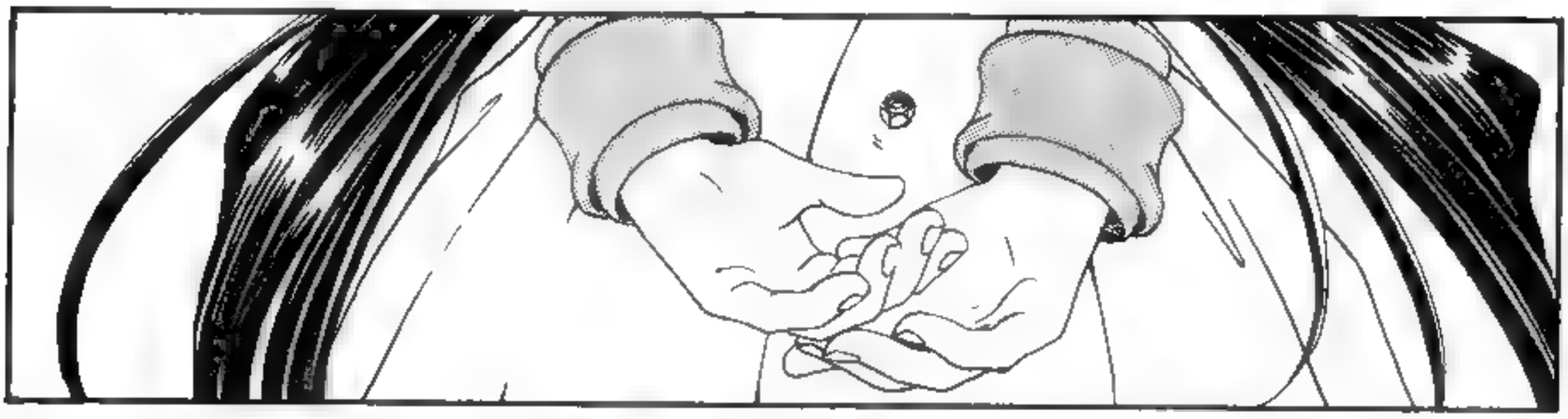
WH-*WHAT?!*

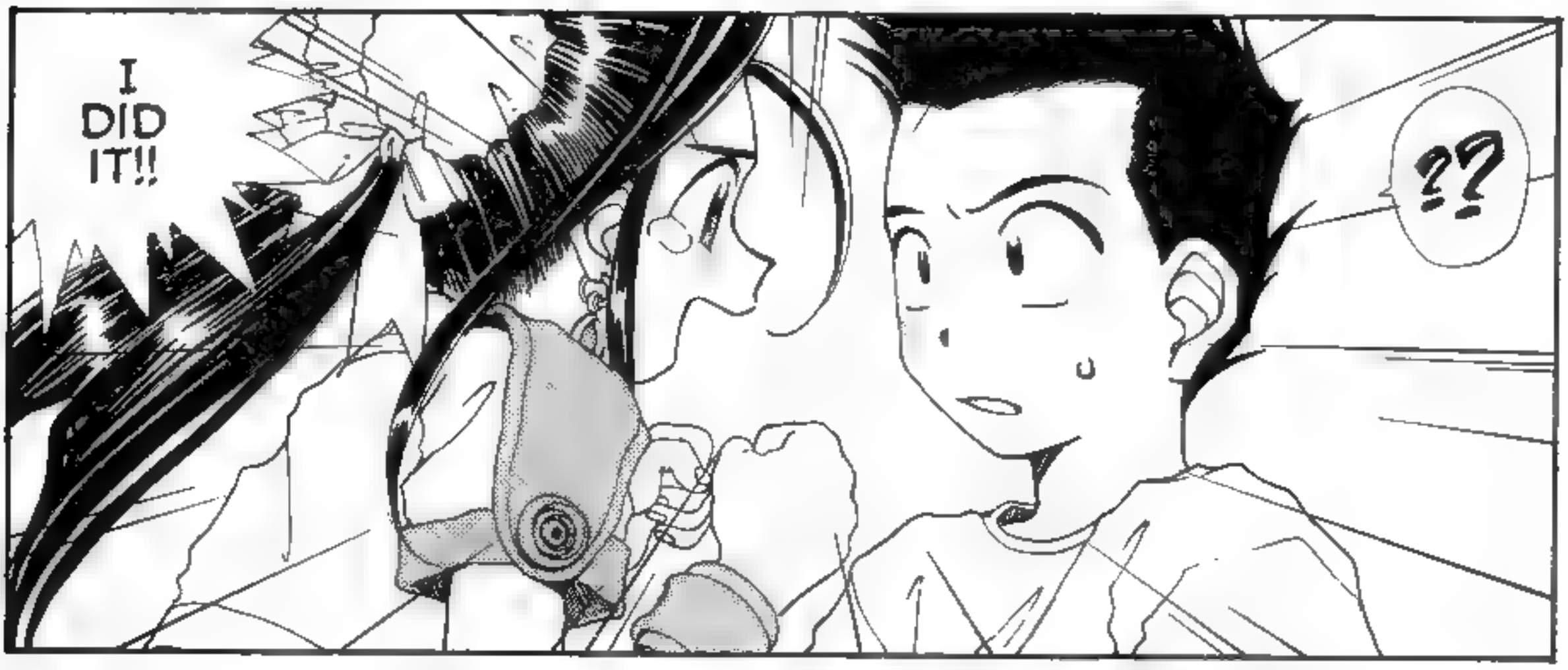
I'M NOT A *KID,* YOU KNOW!

HUH?

DOES SHE THINK ONLY KIDS GET HEAT-STROKE?

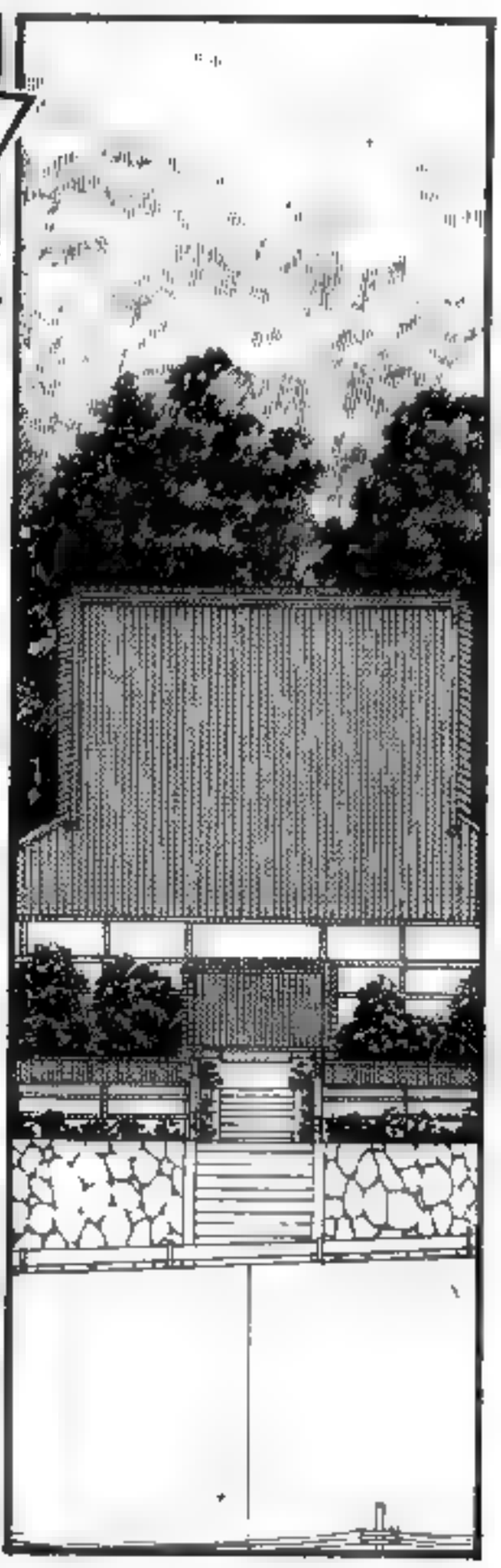
OH ...?!




I DID IT!!
?!

I DID IT, I DID IT, I DID IT!
I FINALLY DID IT!!
R-REALLY ...? THAT'S, uh, GREAT.
?
?

YAHOO! FINALLY!



WOW!

HEH!

HEE-HEE-HEE!

THAT'S *SO* COOL, SKULD! JUST A WHILE AGO YOU COULDN'T DO IT AT *ALL*.

A GODDESS' POWER IS THE POWER OF *LOVE FOR OTHERS*.

THAT'S *THE SOURCE*.

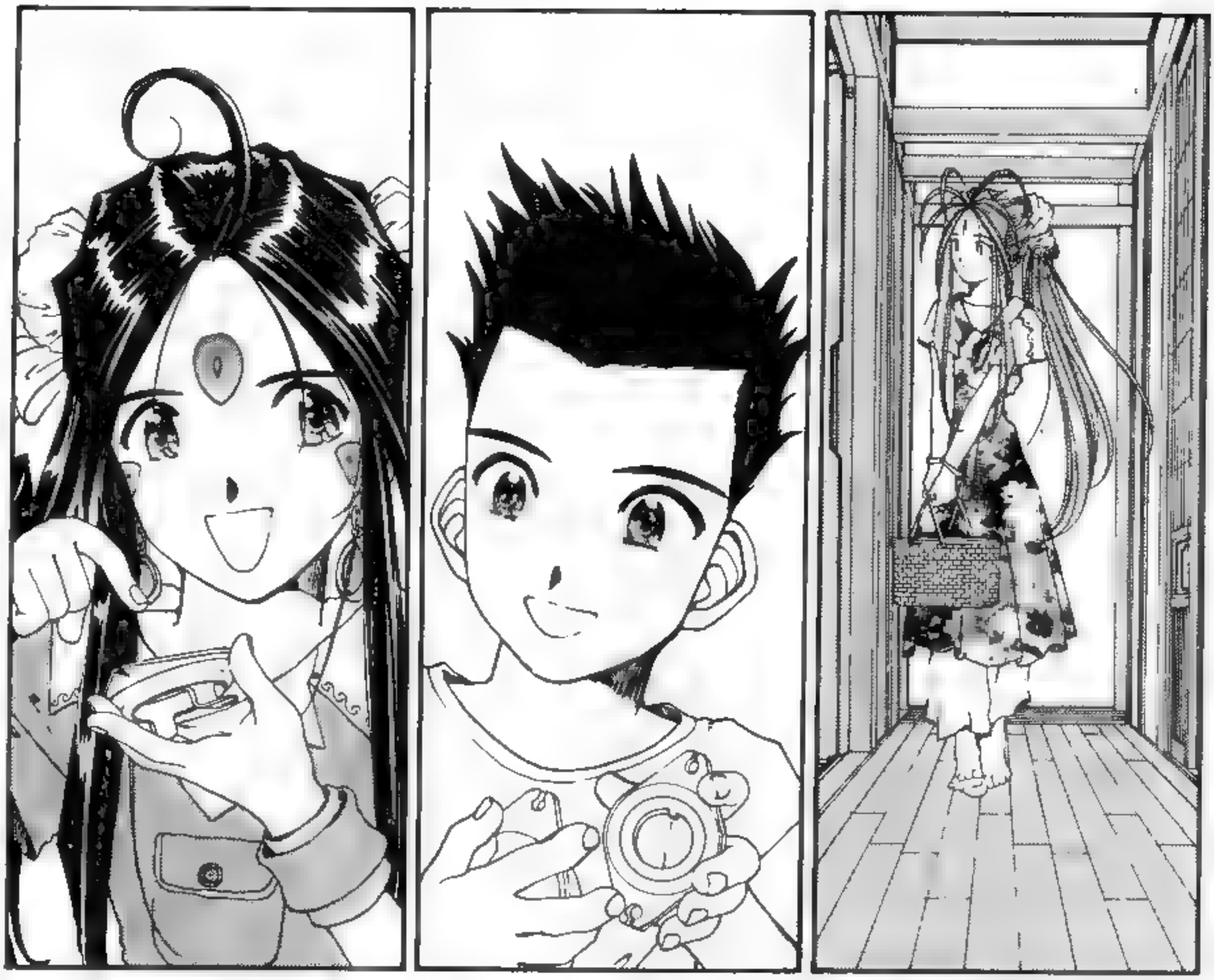
AND I *KNOW* YOU'LL FEEL IT MORE AND MORE...

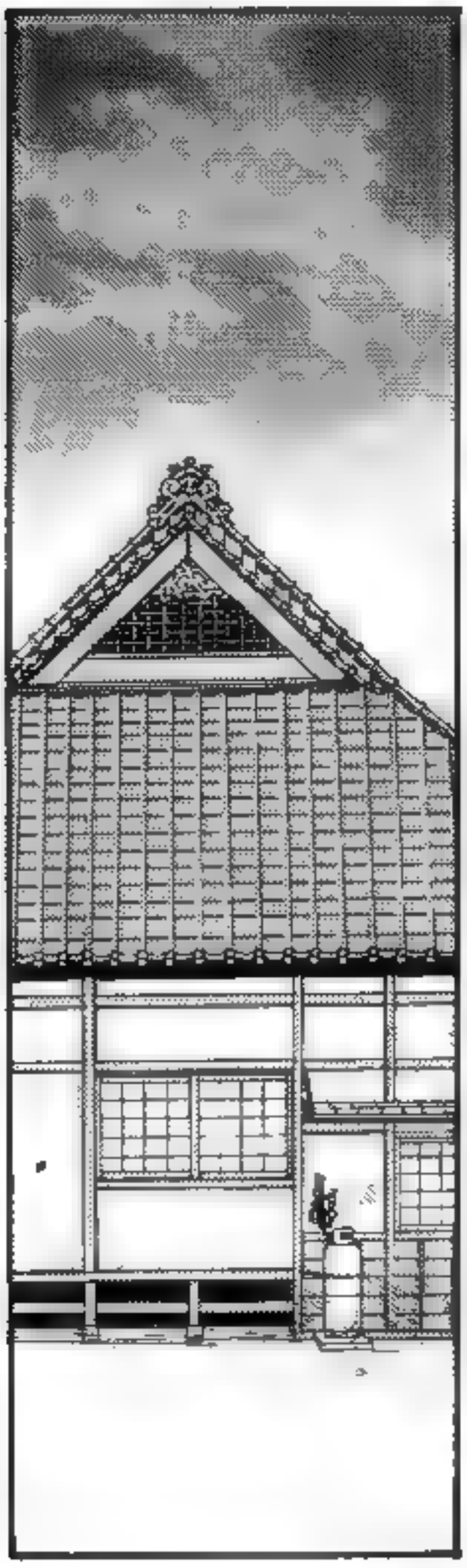
THAT'S RIGHT, SKULD .. NO MATTER WHAT MAY HAPPEN....

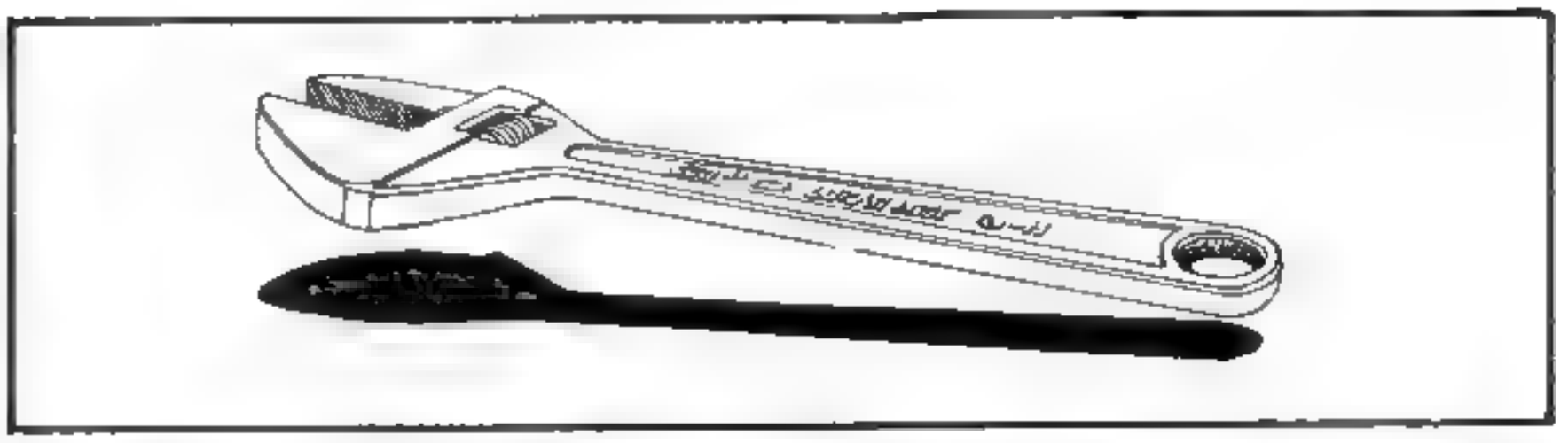
..DON'T EVER FORGET *LOVE.*

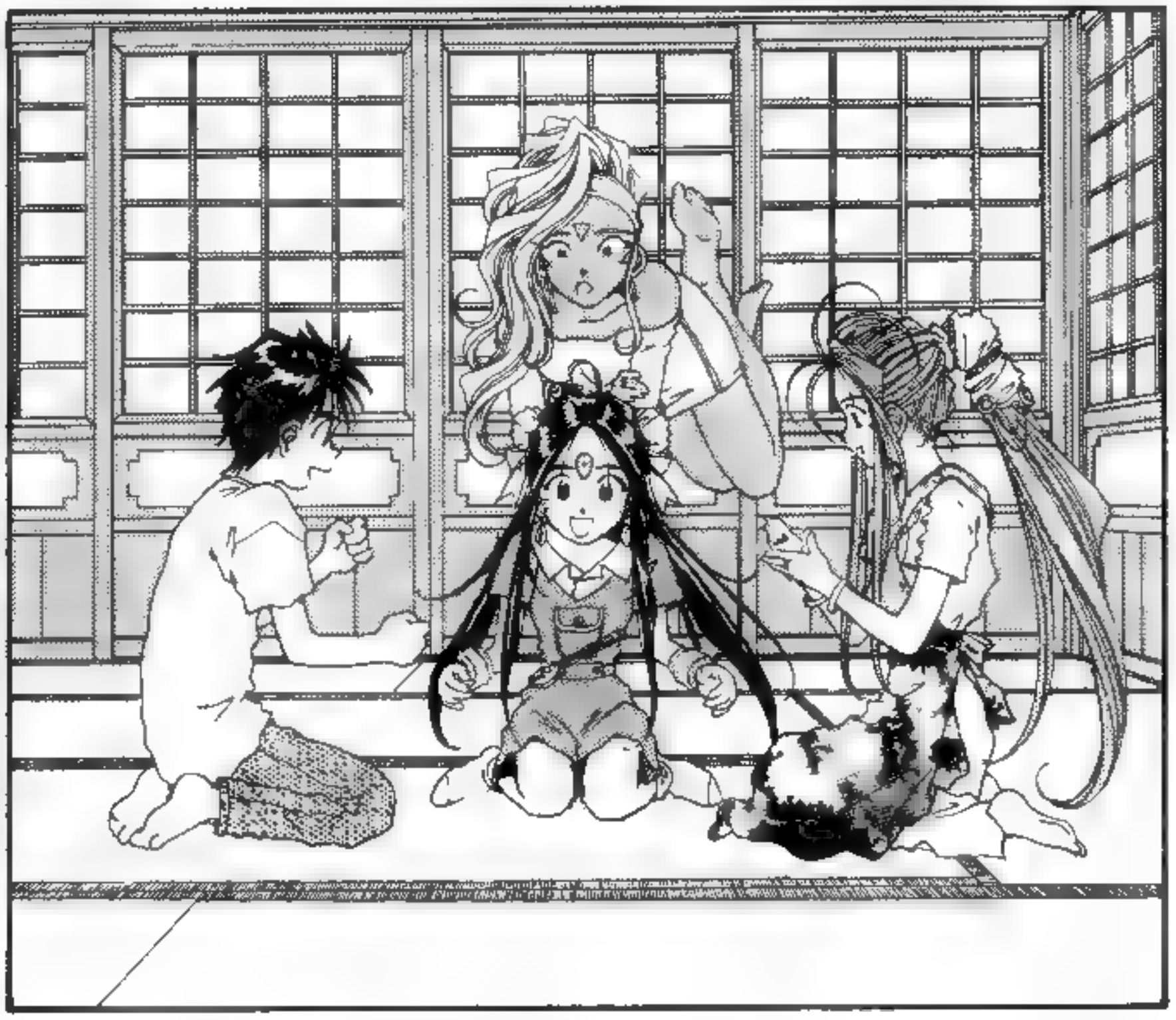
"WHAT YOU'RE FEELING NOW...

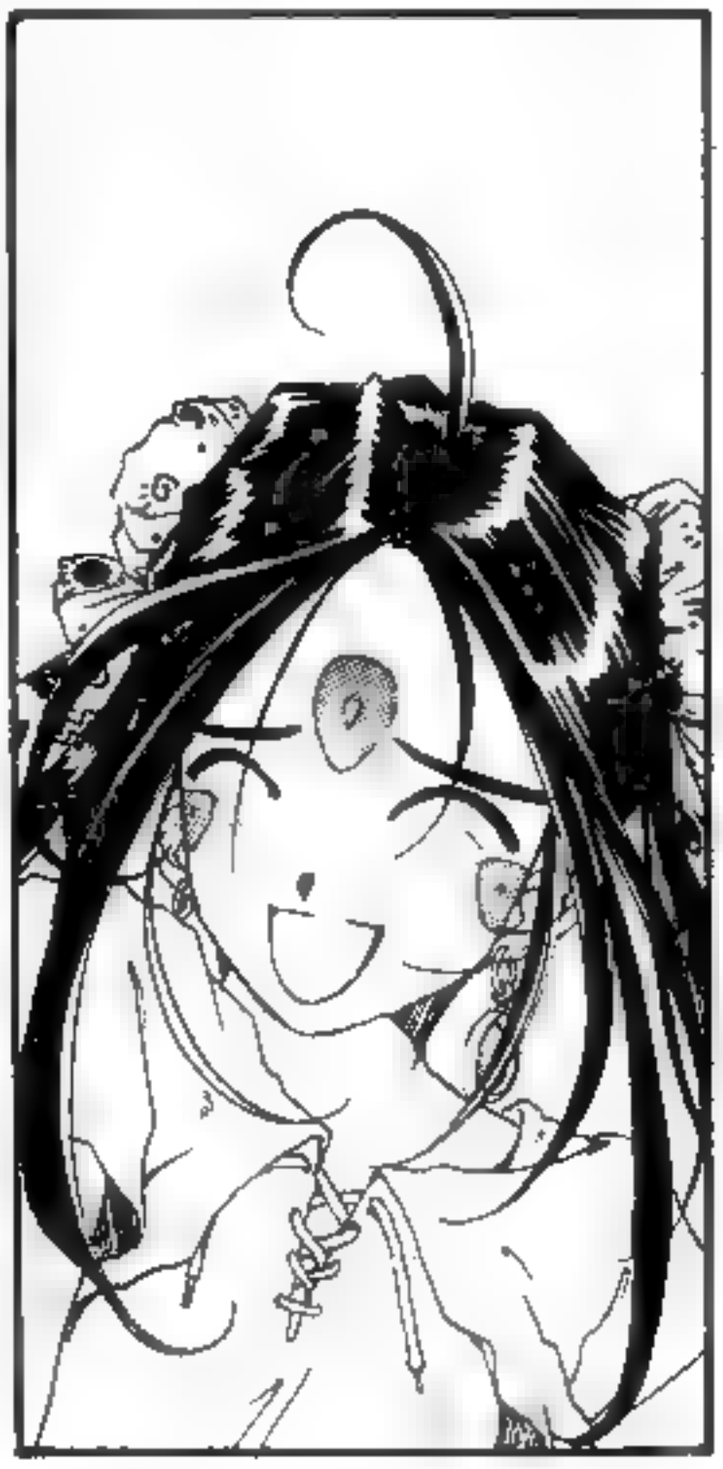
"THAT PRECIOUS, ***PRECIOUS*** FEELING."

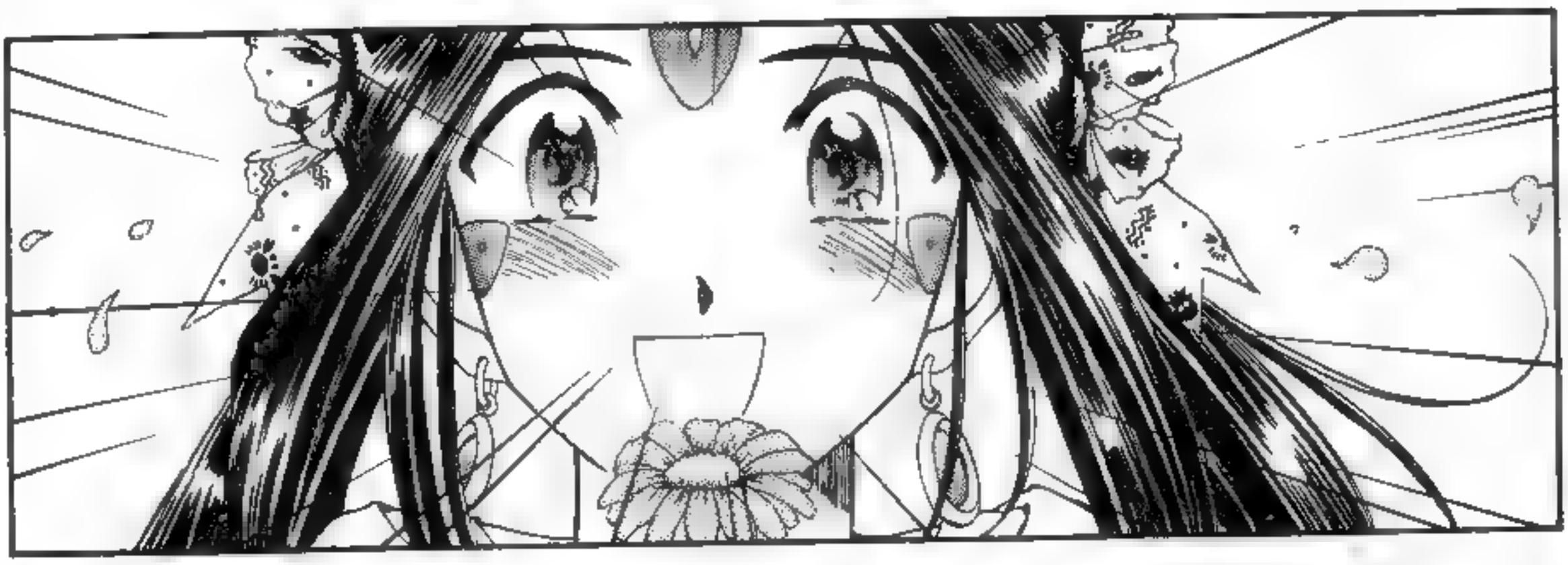


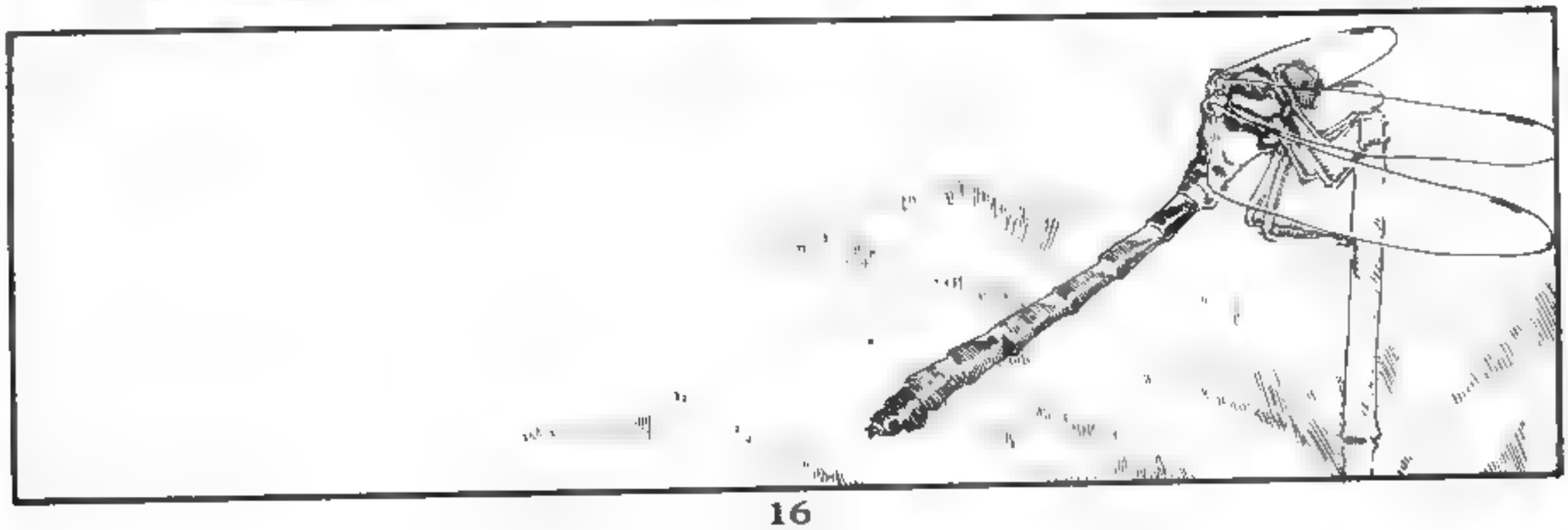












HEY... SKULD ...?

WHAT?

UM... WHAT SCHOOL DO YOU GO TO?

I DON'T.

HUH?

I MEAN, NOT AROUND HERE.

YAIEE!

SKRASH

FWHMP

NOT *AGAIN?!*

ANY DAMAGE?!

OW.

NAW, IT'S OKAY. REALLY.

"I MEAN THE *BICYCLE.*"

RIGHT ...?

SMARTASS! ANYWAY, YOU SCRATCHED YOUR FOREHEAD!

GO HAVE BELL-DANDY LOOK AT IT!

"YES, MOMMY."

SHE DOESN'T GO TO SCHOOL AROUND HERE...?

WHICH MUST MEAN SHE'S...

?!

OF COURSE! THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL!

SHE IS A FOREIGNER

OH, SHEESH! WHAT'S HE MEAN, "IT'S OKAY" ...?!

IT'S EVEN MORE BANGED UP THAN BEFORE!

I'D LOVE TO HELP HIM RIDE...

...RIDE A REALLY BEAUTIFUL BIKE...

FAK

NOW..
JUST HOLD STILL A MOMENT.

THERE-- ALL DONE!

HUH? IT *TOTALLY* STOPPED HURTING!

GEE... SKULD'S LUCKY. SHE'S GOT SUCH A NICE BIG SISTER...

OH, REALLY?

SKULD'S VERY NICE, TOO... DON'T YOU THINK?

....

YEAH.

AH?

WAS IT OKAY?

DID SHE TAKE CARE OF IT?

YUP. SEE?

SOCAL

UH OH

WH-WHAT TH--?!

IS THAT *MINE?!*

SURE IS. ❤

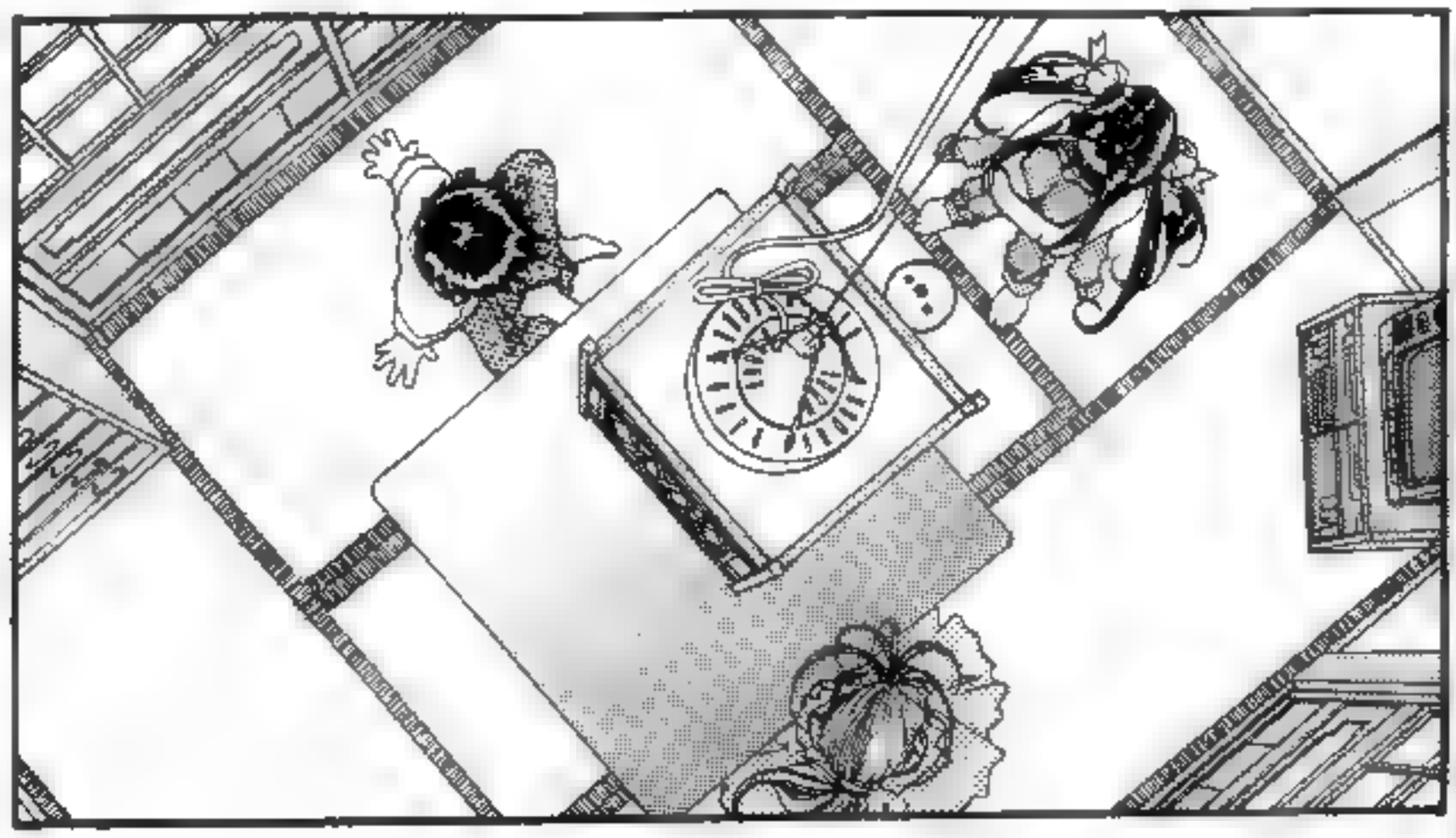
DO YOU DID THAT, SKULD ...?

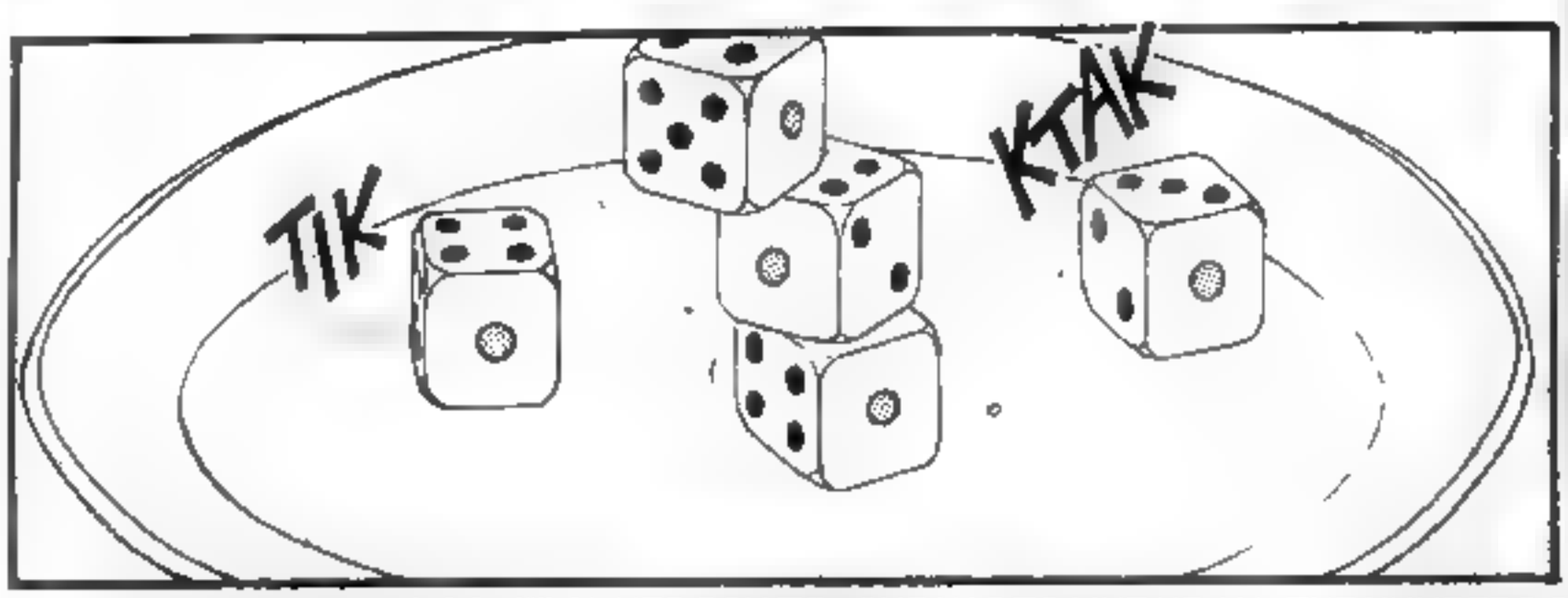
UH...

YEAH.

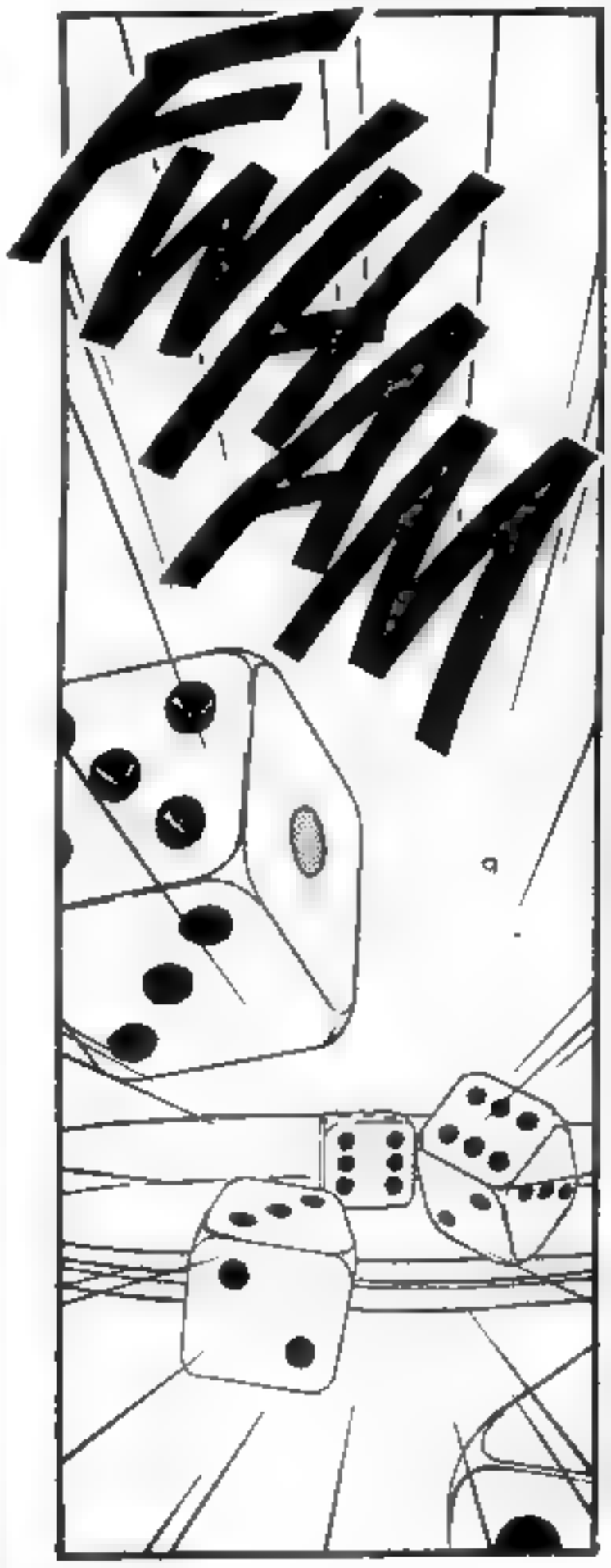
WHY, SKULD? WHY'D YOU GO AND DO *THAT?!*

HUH?! B- BUT.





▲ SPECIAL TRAINING TO CONTROL HER POWER--SHE HAS TO LINE UP ALL THE NUMBERS ON THE DICE.



YOU KNOW... LIKE A DIARY, ALMOST.

GOOD TIMES, BAD TIMES, ALL ETCHED INTO YOUR BIKE.

THEY'RE LIKE MEDALS OF HONOR.

FOR SENTARO, SOME OF THEM MUST HAVE BEEN *REALLY IMPORTANT* MEMORIES.

OH ...?

OH, *REALLY?*

I DON'T GET IT!!

SKULD ...?

FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOME-ONE MEANS--

I'M *NOT* FALLING IN LOVE WITH *ANY-BODY!*

REALLY...? THEN LET ME TALK TO MYSELF.

GETTING TO LOVE SOMEONE MEANS THE JOY OF DISCOVERY.

NOT JUST THE THINGS YOU SHARE. BUT ALSO EACH OTHER'S NEW AND DIFFERENT VALUES.

AND THEN... I THINK... IT'S THE JOY...

...OF CREATING A NEW WORLD TOGETHER.

I...

I THINK I UNDER-STAND NOW.

I DID A BAD THING TO SENTARO.

WELL, IN THAT CASE, I KNOW A *MAGIC WORD.*

AND IT'S JUST THE THING FOR THIS SORT OF SITUATION.

HM?

"YOU SHOULD HAVE THE POWER TO USE IT NOW, SKULD...."

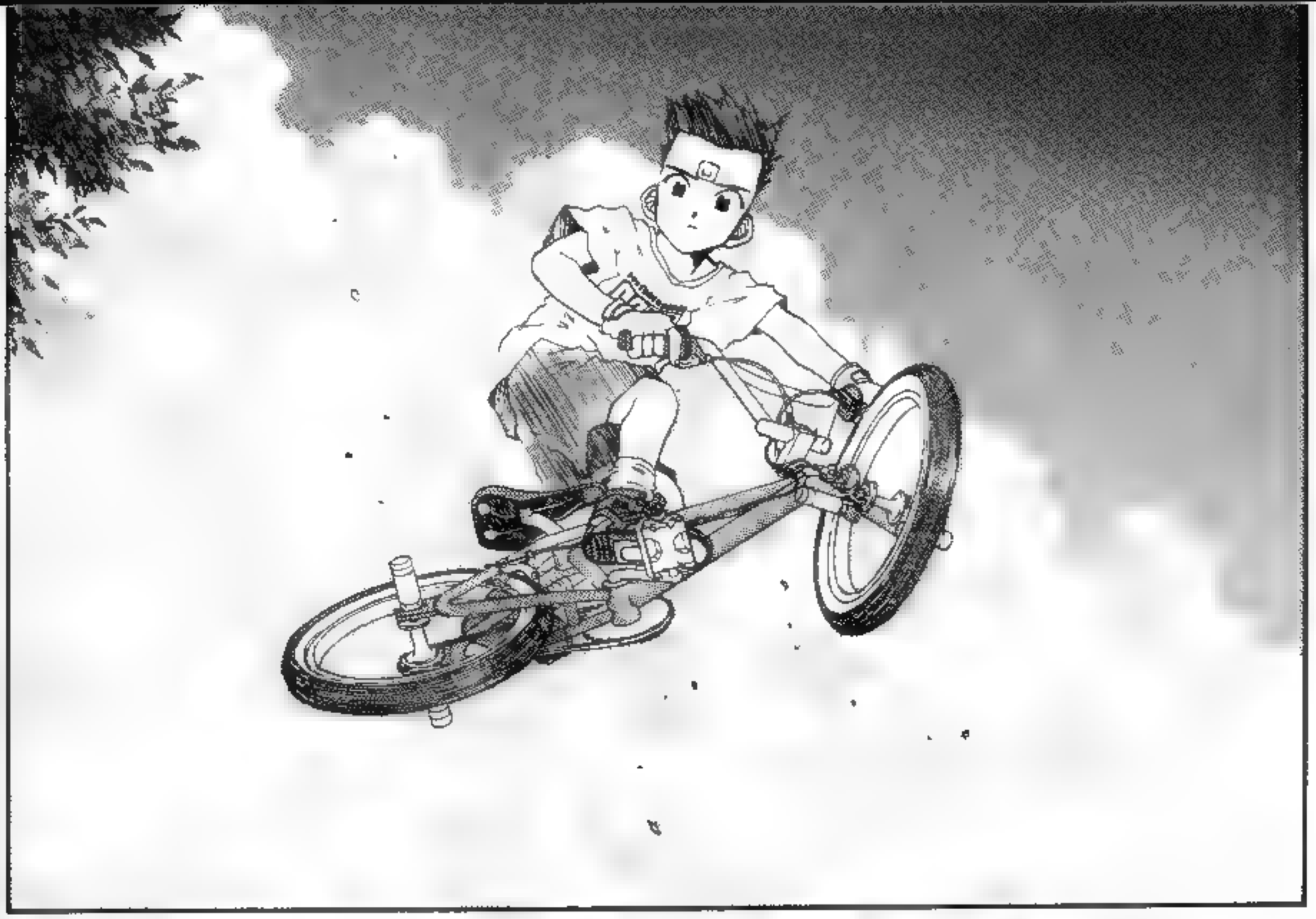
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SENTARO, HE'S DOWN ON THE RIVER-BANK.

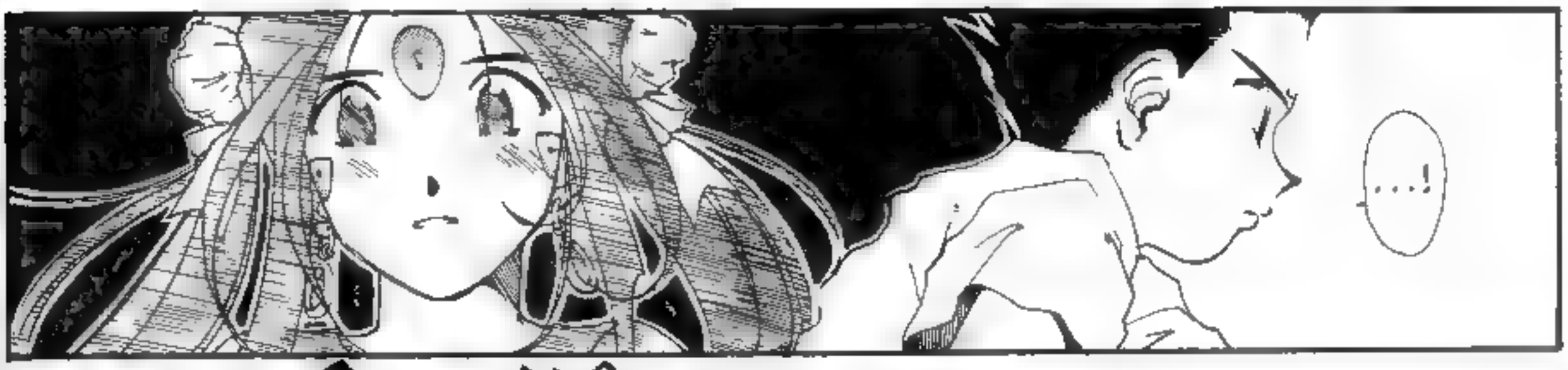
THANK YOU, SIS!

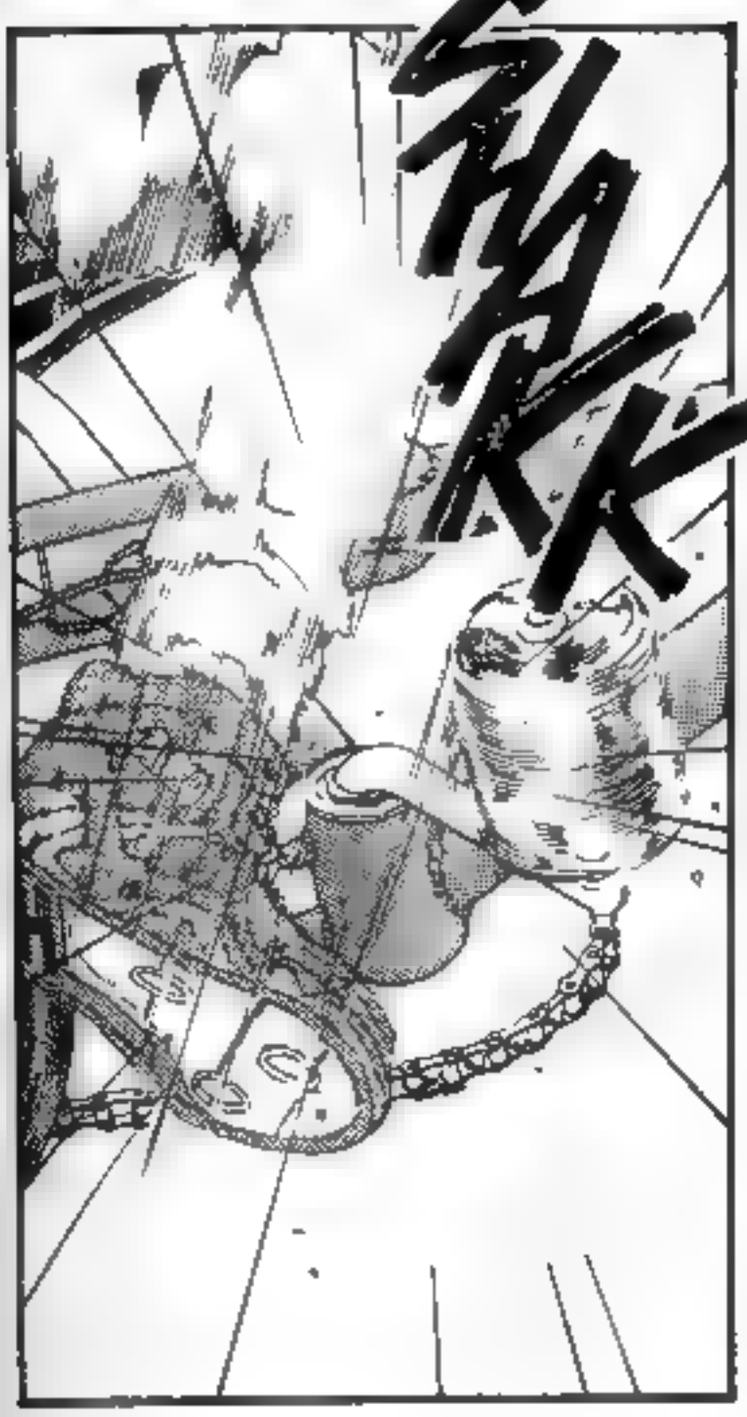
MY PLEA-SURE.

"THANK YOU, SIS" ...?

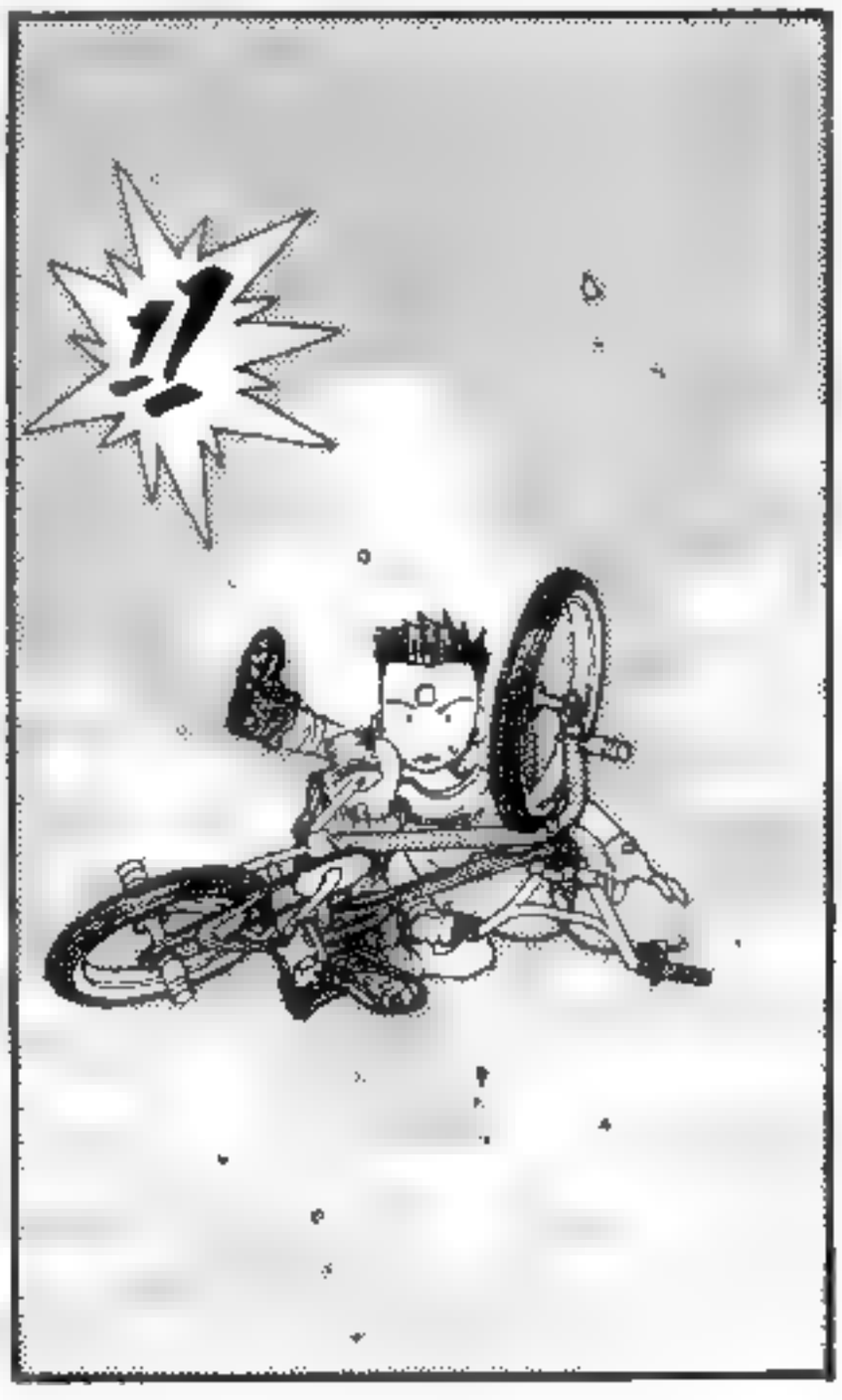
WELL WELL!




...!


SHAKK

WHINGE
GURK!


!!

BAD!

BAD!

BAD!

VERY BAD!

?!

SENTARO!!

PLEASE! I DON'T CARE IF I CAN NEVER USE IT AGAIN!

GIVE ME MY FULL POWER! *NOW!*

SKRAKTSH

KLANGG

?

?

?

?

SEN AROU!

ANY-THING HURT?!

SKULD ...?

NAW... PROBABLY NOT.

SHE COULDN'T HAVE ...?

WELL...

SO MUCH FOR THAT IDEA.

LOOKS LIKE IT'S REALLY BUSTED THIS TIME.

DUMMY!

I MEANT *YOU!!*

HUH?!

ME ...?

AND... UM...

UM... I WANNA...

....

....

....

"YOU SHOULD HAVE THE POWER TO USE IT NOW, SKULD...."

I...

I'M SORRY!

EACH OF THOSE SCRATCHES... EVERY ONE...

I D-DIDN'T REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT THEY WERE TO YOU.

WELL, UH... ACTUALLY... ONLY ONE OF 'EM MATTERED.

IT... ....

OH...? BUT THAT ONE WAS REALLY IMPORTANT, RIGHT?

AW, HEY, FORGET IT.

ANYWAY, YOU FIXED MY BIKE FOR ME, AND NOW JUST LOOK AT IT!

REALLY SCREWED UP, DIDN'T I?

SENTARO...? THAT REALLY IMPORTANT SCRATCH?

YOU WANNA KNOW WHY?

UM... YEAH.

AIN'T GONNA TELL YA!

OOH!! NO FAIR!!

I COULD NEVER TELL YOU, SKULD... THAT IT WAS THE SCRATCH FROM THE DAY I MET YOU...

SKSH

AAAH?! YOU WERE SPYING ON US?!!

EVEN YOU, BELLDANDY?!

GRRR!

I JUST HAPPENED TO BE PASSING...

WELL, I GOT WORRIED.

Yo!

NEXT ISSUE: "THE QUEEN AND THE GODDESS"

Letters to the Enchantress

10956 SE MAIN STREET, MILWAUKIE, OREGON 97222
www.darkhorse.com • omg@darkhorse.com • www.studioproteus.com

Is it that time already?! Time to dive into the GIANT stack of Letters to the Enchantress! Yay! But first, I'd like to once again thank Rachel Penn and her assistant Dan Harris for all of their hard work editing *Oh My Goddess!* and Dark Horse's other manga series. I'll do my best to keep the Dark Horse manga line looking its best!

One more quick thing: due to advertising-space restrictions, I need to try to keep the letters pages down to two pages. So, I need to cut back on the amount of fan artwork that gets printed (Argh!). From now on, we're going to have a special "Fan Art of the Month" feature in the letters column, along with all of our other regular features. PLEASE keep sending in your drawings of Belldandy, Keiichi, and the gang — I'd print them all if I could, but we're going to have to cut back a bit for now.

And now, your letters...

Dear Enchantress,

I've been a fan of *Oh My Goddess!* for some time now, and I just wanted to drop you a line and let you know how much I appreciate the efforts of you fine folks there at Dark Horse Comics and Studio Proteus. The most recent outing, "A Goddess Never Forgets," was well up to Mr. Fujishima's usual standard of excellence, but what really makes it interesting is how it shines some light on what I have come to understand is something of a running debate among *OMG!* fans. What debate, you may ask? Simply this: Keiichi Morisato — feckless wimp or misunderstood hero?

In "A Goddess Never Forgets," we learn that Peorth has for some time harbored a grudge against Belldandy, not because of any insult on Belldandy's part, but because of a deed that can at worst be described as a charitable kindness. Peorth felt insulted that Belldandy should think her in need of such "charity," that the appearance of such a need in some way lessened her. This idea, I think, is at the core of the persistent perception that our man Morisato is a wimp.

The general rhythm of *OMG!* stories usually has Keiichi getting into some sort of trouble, either by the direct action of one of the three goddesses, or by getting caught in the crossfire of some divine mess that has nothing to do with him, and it then follows that the sisters must help him out of whatever mess they have, intentionally or not, gotten him into. I think it's this fact that Keiichi is constantly in need of help (and, horror of horrors, female help at that) that fuels the wimp argument. The idea persists to this day that if a guy can't do for himself, he's not really a man.

Of course, there are other factors that contribute to this perception. Keiichi isn't terribly assertive (why doesn't he just tell Belldandy that he loves her?) and is at times nice to the point of being a doormat (why doesn't he just tell Peorth to shove off?), but these things are what make him endearing and just indicate that, like Belldandy, he is sometimes too good a person than is usually practical.

Let me state that I, at least, don't consider Keiichi a wimp. All one really has to do is remember back during the "Terrible Master Urd" story line where Keiichi, decked out in a Skuld-designed suit of power armor, went toe-to-toe with Urd's Ultimate Destruction Mecha. (Of course, he lost, but that's beside the point.) Hardly the actions of a coward, I would think. Anyway, let's hear no more discussion! Keiichi Morisato is not a wimp, he's just an extraordinarily easy-going guy. There is a difference. So there.

Thanks for letting me ramble on there. I feel much better. Keep up the good work!

Robert Childers
Warrensburg, MO

And thanks for writing, Robert. I'm with you, buddy — any guy who's able to gain the friendship, love, and/or respect of several beautiful women and goddesses has to be doing something right!

Dear Enchantress,

I would like to thank you for publishing such a wonderful series. I have collected every comic since the first issue and look forward to many more.

My favorite character is Belldandy. I admire the way that she constantly sees the best in people and is always there with encouragement. I feel that Belldandy's pure spirit is exemplified by her kindness, whether it is directed towards Keiichi or someone who sees her as an enemy.

It is unsurprising that Keiichi feels the way he does for her. I found the panels on the bottom of page 5 leading over to page 6 of *Part VII* #1 to be quite touching. I hope that one day someone views me in the same light. I also

hope that I will notice. It hasn't happened yet and I sometimes worry that it may never occur, as I am a little shy.

I really enjoy reading the lovely tales presented in *OMG!*, as they are truly delightful experiences, but occasionally I wonder if I am letting the fantasy displace the reality? I cannot believe this to be entirely true, as I see people around me apparently in love. Yet I remain alone (and lonely).

Until my time comes, please promise to continue printing the excellent *OMG!*

Penelope Constance
kitsune@usagimail.com

Thanks for your insightful comments, Penelope. I think part of the reason for the massive popularity of *Oh My Goddess!* is that it's one of the few comics series out there to feature genuinely nice characters. It's not always easy to run into that kind of person in life, which makes a person's kindness that much more special.

Speaking from personal experience, it seems that a person feels loneliest when he or she is constantly aware of not having someone to be close to and share themselves with. I believe that the only way a person can truly be happy is if they try to be the best person they can be. It's the people who are kind and fun and who clearly enjoy life who are the most attractive — at least, to me. So rather than focus on what you don't have, try to focus on what you do — and what you can try to get yourself! The rest will follow — trust me.

(And don't worry: *OMG!* is still running in Japan, so rest assured we have many more years of fun ahead!)

Don't forget to be on the lookout for *Super Manga Blast!*, the mega-sized, low-priced manga anthology series coming in March from Dark Horse! *SMB!* will include, for the first time, the "lost" episodes of *Oh My Goddess!* that were skipped over in *Parts I-III*. See Keiichi's adventures with just one goddess for the first time! Let your comics retailer know *NOW* that you want *SMB!*

Finally: no pen-pals section this month, folks, 'cause next issue's going to have a huge, new pen-pals list! (Remember to let me know if you want to be added to it!) See you next month!

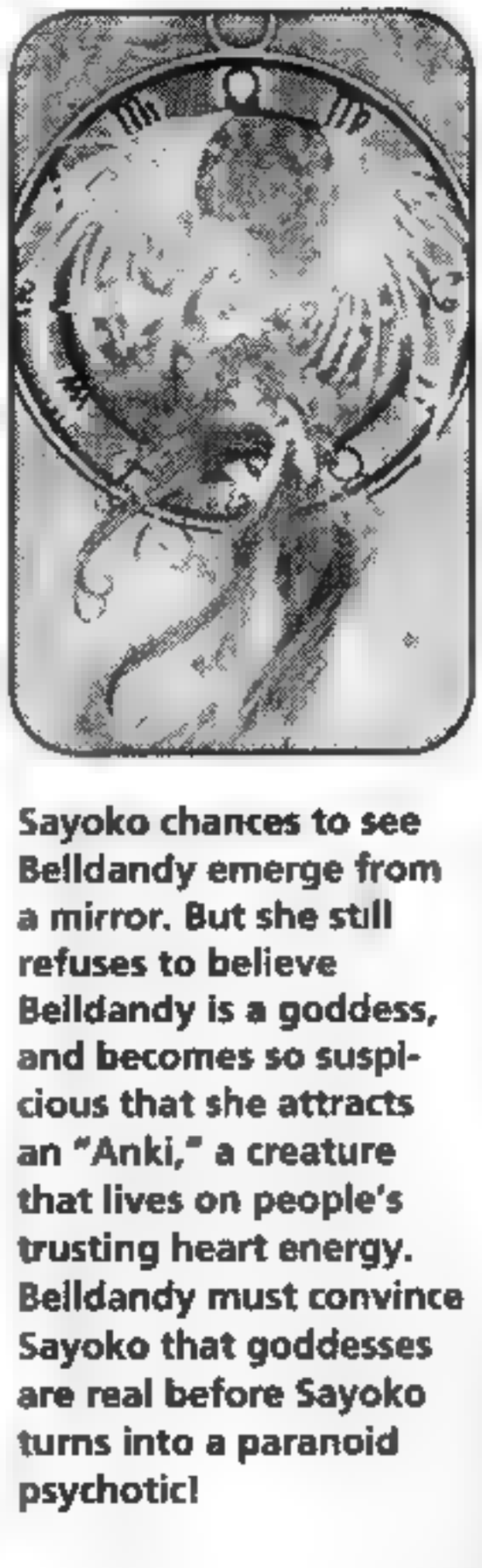
— MikeH!

Fan Art

by
Denmark Havime Millan

NOTE: All fan artwork submitted becomes the property of Dark Horse Comics and will not be returned!

Next Issue



Sayoko chances to see Belldandy emerge from a mirror. But she still refuses to believe Belldandy is a goddess, and becomes so suspicious that she attracts an "Anki," a creature that lives on people's trusting heart energy. Belldandy must convince Sayoko that goddesses are real before Sayoko turns into a paranoid psychotic!

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lettering and re-touch by
SUSIE LEE and PC ORZ

cover by
KOSUKE FUJISHIMA

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AMY ARENDTS

editor
MIKE HANSEN

publisher
MIKE RICHARDSON

English version produced by Studio Proteus for Dark Horse Comics, Inc.

The QUEEN and the GODDESS

VRRR
BB

WHOA!

YES... *YES!* THIS IS *IT!*

THOSE ADORING GAZES ARE MY ENERGY SOURCE!

AND YET...

IT ALL FEELS KIND OF... *POINT-LESS.*

I KNOW IT'S SUMMER BREAK, BUT STILL...

...SHE HASN'T BEEN AROUND AT *ALL.*

七命命

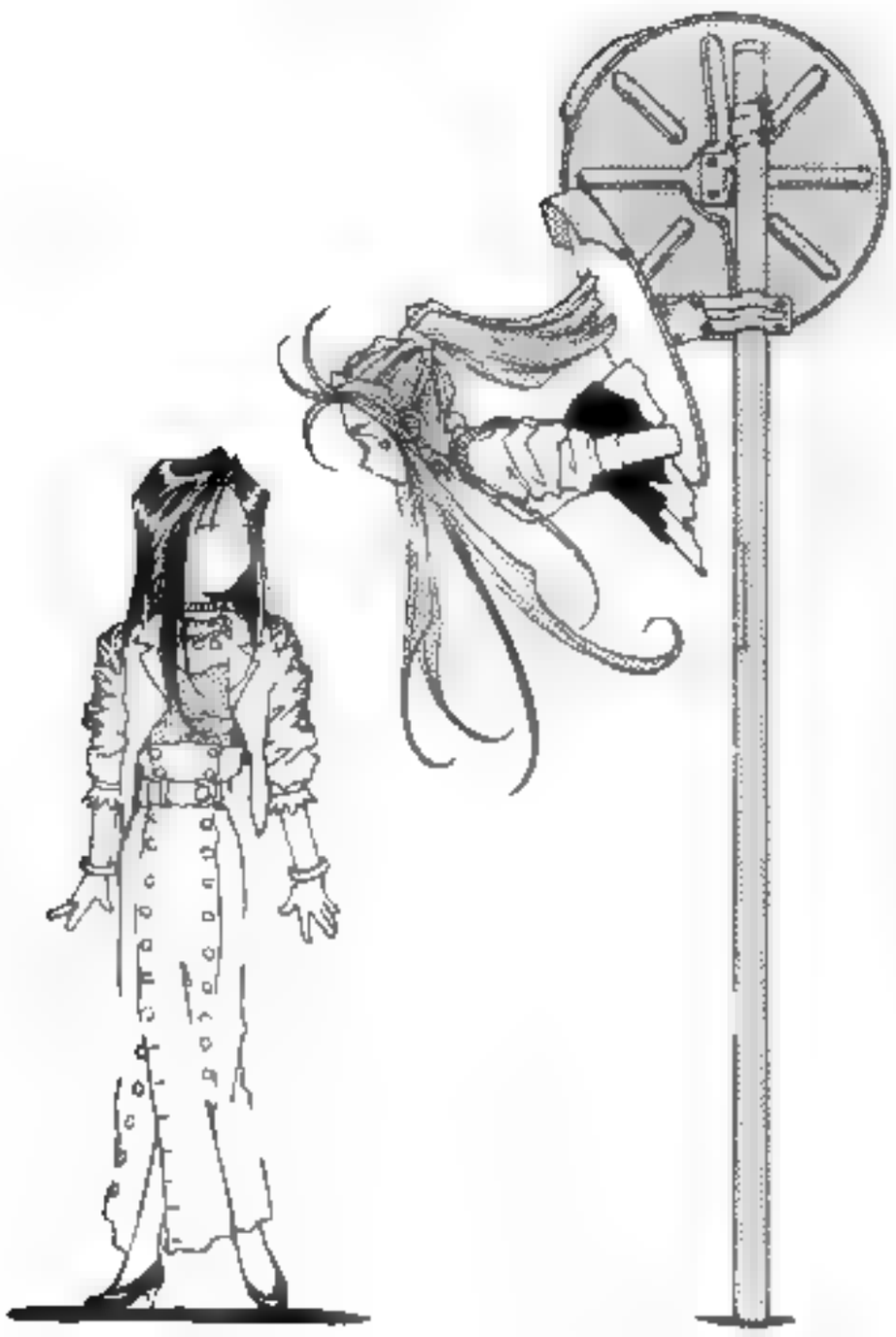
I MISS THE *TENSION!* LET'S SEE SOME SPARKS FLY!

C'MON, BELL-DANDY! COME OUT AND *FIGHT!*

*BEEE

OH?!

AH?



NO...NO... DON'T DO IT! CAN'T FAINT. NOT NOW.

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER. THAT'S RIGHT. SAYOKO IS *CALM*. SAYOKO IS *COOL*.

"THIS SORT OF THING'S HAPPENED BEFORE, REMEMBER?"

BUT THIS TIME...IT WAS RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES! I SAW IT... *I REALLY SAW IT!*

ER... HELLO ...?

SAYOKO ...?

HOH! HOH! HOH! I GET IT!

EH?

YOU'RE A *WITCH!*

"A WITCH"...?

THAT'S *RIGHT!* YOU'RE A PRINCESS FROM MAGIC-LAND AND YOU CAME HERE ON A BROOM! OR, OR...

NO! WAIT! I KNOW!! YOU WERE GIVEN MAGICAL POWERS BY A MYSTERIOUS SPACE ALIEN, AND YOU TRANSFORM WITH A WEIRD LITTLE CHANT, AND THEN YOU BECOME A SUPER IDOL SINGER AND, AND...

OR MAYBE... YOU GOT THIS WITCH RIVAL, RIGHT?! AND YOU'RE FIGHTING HER FOR THE THRONE OF THE DEMON WORLD!

HAH! BUT NOW THAT YOU'VE BEEN EXPOSED YOU CAN'T STAY HERE IN THE WORLD OF HUMANS, RIGHT?!

THAT'S THE RULE FOR YOU WITCHES! SO GET OUTTA HERE, OR IT'S THE *SPANISH INQUISITION* FOR YOU, SERVANT OF HELL!

ER... ACTUALLY... I'M A *GODDESS*, NOT A WITCH.

....?

OHH... I AM *SO* ASHAMED! EVEN IF IT WAS FOR JUST A MOMENT, I LOST MY SELF-CONTROL.

OF *COURSE* IT WAS A TRICK. IT *HAS* TO BE A TRICK!

SAYOKO ...?

HOH.. HOH HOH HOH HOH HOH HOH!

THAT'S THE BEST YOU COULD COME UP WITH? YOU'RE A *GODDESS*?

IT'S THE SAME AS THOSE ***PENN AND TELLER*** GUYS.

ONCE YOU KNOW HOW THEY DO IT, IT'S ***SO*** OBVIOUS.

S- ***SAYAKO!*** ON YOUR SHOULDER--

WHAT? THERE'S NOTHING THERE.

C'MON-- THAT'S THE OLDEST ONE IN THE BOOK!

DID I REALLY SEE IT...? AND WHAT WAS IT...?

ANYWAY, IF YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD SCARE ME OFF WITH YOUR LITTLE TRICKS, YOU ARE SO, ***SO*** WRONG.

OH ...?

WHAT NONSENSE! WHY IF GODS AND GODDESSES
WE'RE JUST HANGING OUT ON STREET CORNERS
NONE OF US WOULD HAVE ANY FREEDOM
AT
ALL

HEH...

YO!

ER... WELCOME TO *URD'S MAGIC SHOW!*

HEH, HEH..?

!?

NOT THAT IT'S ANY OF MY BUSINESS, BUT...

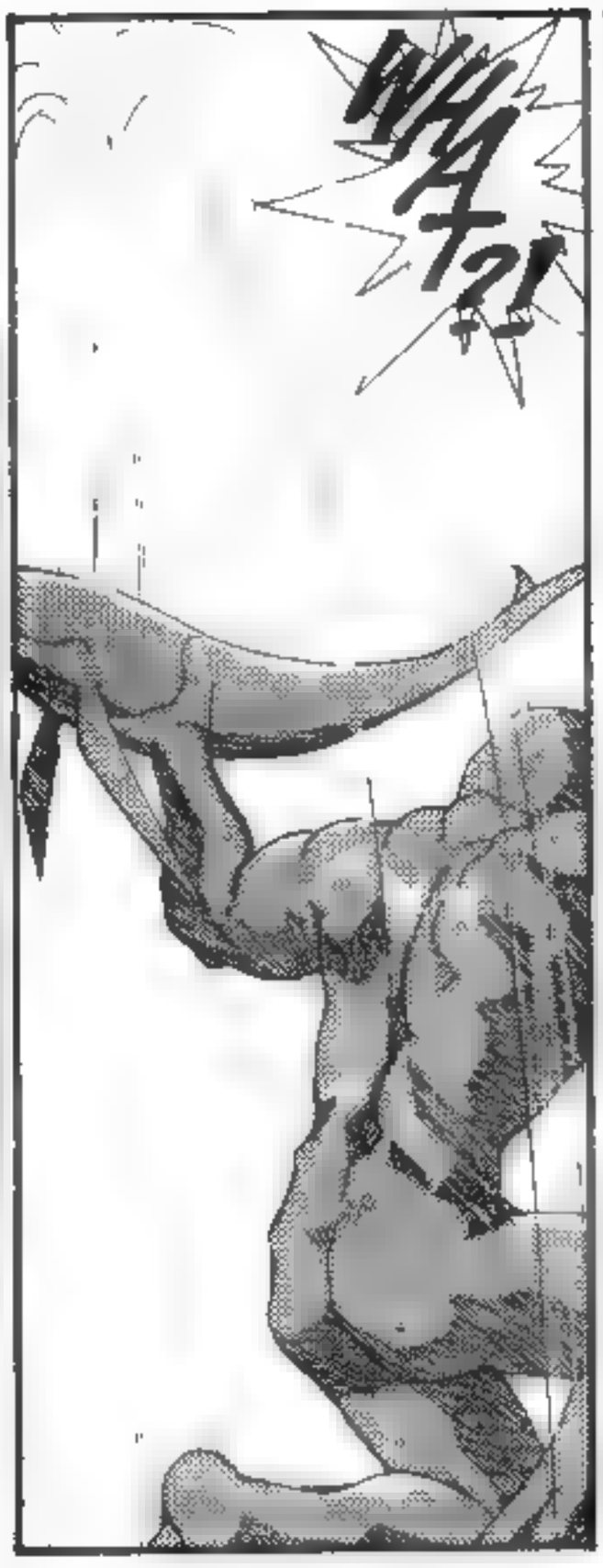
...AREN'T YOU A LITTLE OLD TO BE PLAYING *DRESS-UP* AND *MAKE-BELIEVE...?*

...?

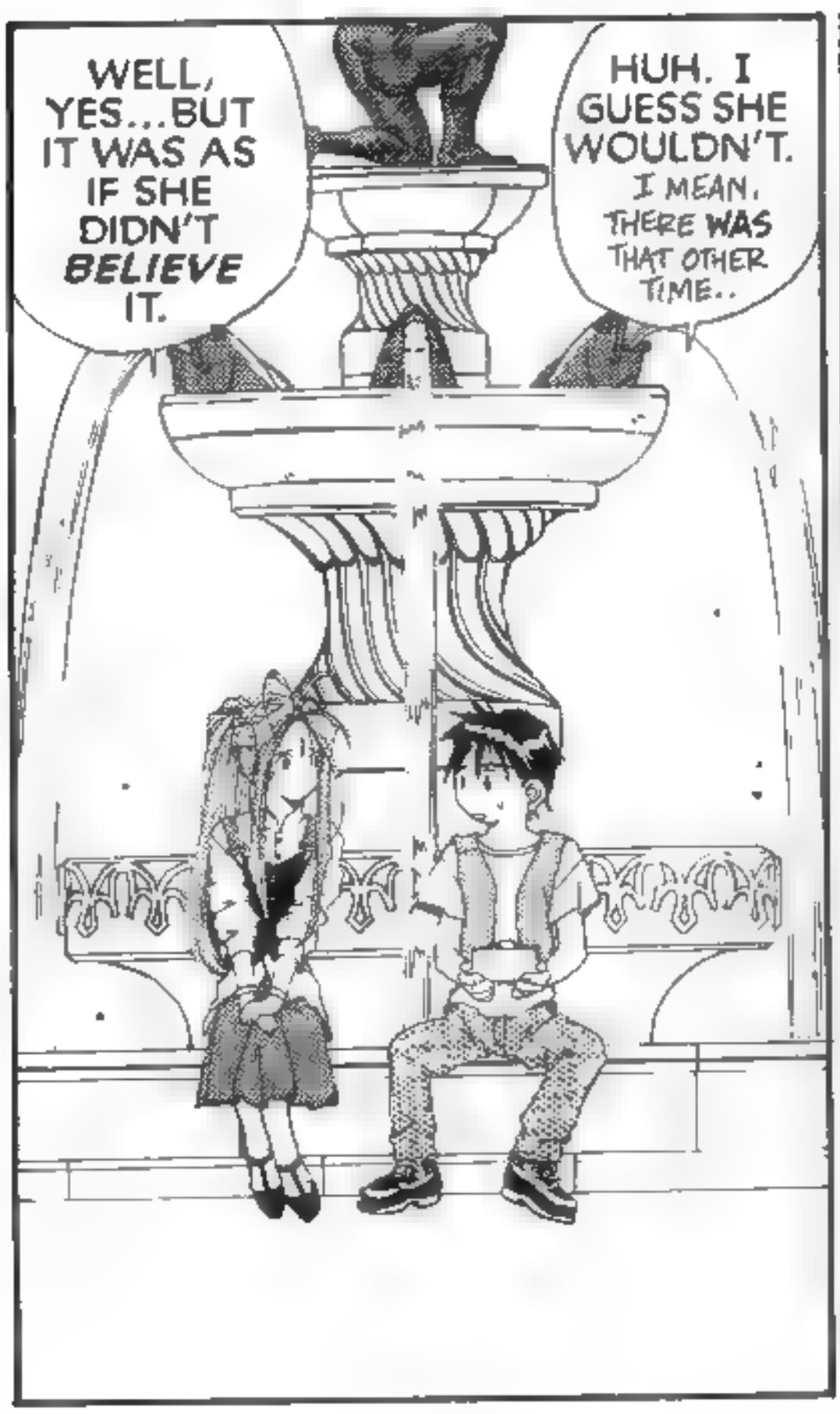
OOPS!

WAIT A SEC-- I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS NOW!

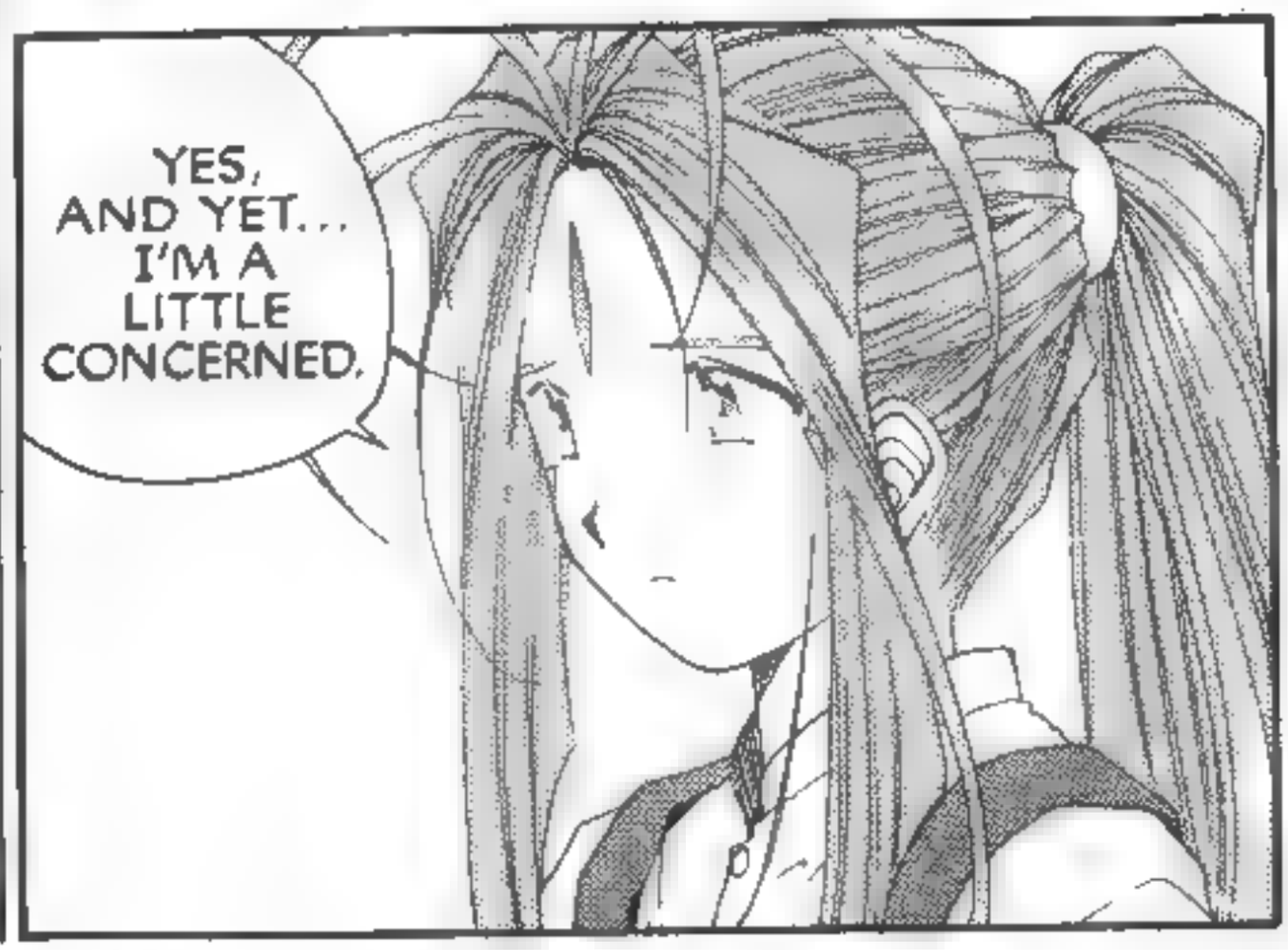
WHAT


WHA-?!

SAYAKO SAW YOU DO IT?!


WELL, YES...BUT IT WAS AS IF SHE DIDN'T BELIEVE IT.
HUH. I GUESS SHE WOULDN'T. I MEAN, THERE WAS THAT OTHER TIME..

SO, THAT'S GOOD, RIGHT? DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SHE'LL CAUSE A RUCKUS.


YES, AND YET... I'M A LITTLE CONCERNED.

HEY, THERE-- YOU TWO GOT A SEC?!

YOU DIDN'T HAPPEN TO SEE SOME SORT OF ***WEIRD CRITTER*** FLOATING AROUND HERE?

I'VE GOT TO CATCH THE LITTLE RASCAL ***QUICK,*** OR ELSE...!

"WEIRD CRITTER" ...?

WELL, UH... IT'S SORTA LIKE ***THIS,*** AN' ***THIS,*** AN'...

OH ...?!

IN THAT CASE--

YOU SAW IT?!

YES, JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO. IT LANDED ON SAYOKO'S SHOULDER AND--

AAGH!

ulp.

I ORDERED AN *ANGEL'S EGG...*

BUT FOR SOME REASON, THEY SENT ME AN *ANKI EGG!*

DON'T YOU GIVE ME THAT *LOOK,* KEIICHI MORISATO!!

URD ...!

OH, *URD. NOW* WHAT?

IT WAS AN *ACCIDENT!* I *SWEAR!!*

EH?!

OH, NO! NOT AN *ANKI!*

ER... WHAT IS IT, ANY-WAY?

IT'S A TENTACLED DEMON THAT GETS ITS ENERGY BY DEVOURING A PERSON'S ABILITY TO TRUST AND BELIEVE.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE IT...

AS SOON AS IT ATTACHED ITSELF TO POOR SAYOKO, SHE LOST HER ABILITY TO BELIEVE IN *ANYTHING.*

HMPH! WHOLE DAMN WORLD IS FULL OF LIARS!!

NO WAY!

AND IF THAT WAS ALL, IT'D BE BAD ENOUGH.

BUT AS IT SUCKS UP ALL HER TRUST, IT'LL GROW AND GROW... UNTIL IT *CRUSHES HER!*

DARN IT, URD!!

GET THAT THING OFF OF HER!

IT'S TOUGH. IF WE DON'T DO IT RIGHT..

...SHE *DIES.*

WHY THE HECK DID YOU ORDER SUCH A DANGEROUS THING?!

I TOLD YOU. THEY SENT ME THE *WRONG THING!!*

ANYWAY, AN ANKI CAN ONLY ATTACH WHEN SOMEONE'S HEART IS ALREADY RIDDLED WITH DOUBT.

IT'S WHAT THEY'RE ATTRACTED TO.

SO IF WE CAN GET HER TO BELIEVE THE THING SHE FIRST DOUBTED, *THEN* WE CAN REMOVE THE NASTY LITTLE BEASTIE.

THEN . . . WHEN SHE SAW ME...

NO WAY?!

WE'VE GOT TO *MAKE* HER BELIEVE YOU'RE A *GODDESS*?!

WHUSSUP?

OOPS.

AHH, IT'S JUST THAT MORISATO GUY CAUSING TROUBLE AGA.I.N.

FORGET IT! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

*SHE'S RIGHT. YOU THINK SHE'S GONNA BELIEVE YOU **NOW**?*

WHAT KIND OF LIFE WILL SHE HAVE WITHOUT THE ABILITY TO TRUST IN OTHERS...?

TRUST IS THE WELLSPRING OF JOY IN OUR LIVES.

"PLEASE, SAYOKO... BELIEVE IN YOUR-SELF!"

MAN... I FEEL SO... SO *HEAVY* TODAY...

AH, THE LOVELY MISS SAYOKO!

WOULD YOU CARE TO JOIN ME FOR DINNER TODAY AT *LE SPA VERTE*?

!!

YOU.

WHAT KIND OF LEWD, DISGUSTING INTENTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

HUH?

IT'S *TRUE!* I *KNOW* IT!! YOU MEN ARE *ALL ALIKE!* YOU ONLY TREAT US NICE BECAUSE YOU WANT OUR *BODIES!*

AGHH! YOU'RE TOTALLY DISGUSTING! LOATHESOME! ***FILTHY!***

SAYOKO!

SAYOKO?

YOU'RE PLANNING TO *KIDNAP ME,* AREN'T YOU? YEP.

...?

NOW, SAYOKO... REALLY... I SWEAR...

ER... YOU MIND COMING WITH US A FOR A MINUTE?

I KNEW IT! YOU'RE GOING TO KNOCK ME OUT AND REMOVE ONE OF MY KIDNEYS AND SELL IT TO ORGAN TRADERS!! HOW HORRIBLE!!

THAT'S JUST AN URBAN LEGEND, YOU KNOW...

LOOK, REALLY-- DON'T WORRY. JUST COME WITH US.

YOU'RE NOT PLANNING TO SELL ME TO WHITE SLAVERS ...?

NO!!

SAYOKO ...?

PLEASE WATCH *CAREFULLY.*

FEEK

SHRIKK

WHAT ARE *YOU* BLUSHING ABOUT ...?

IT'S TRUE.

I *AM* A GODDESS.

hmph

QUITE THE QUICK-CHANGE ARTIST, ANYWAY.

ARGH!.. I KNEW IT!

OH, NO! IT'S *GROWING!*

VERY WELL! IN THAT CASE--

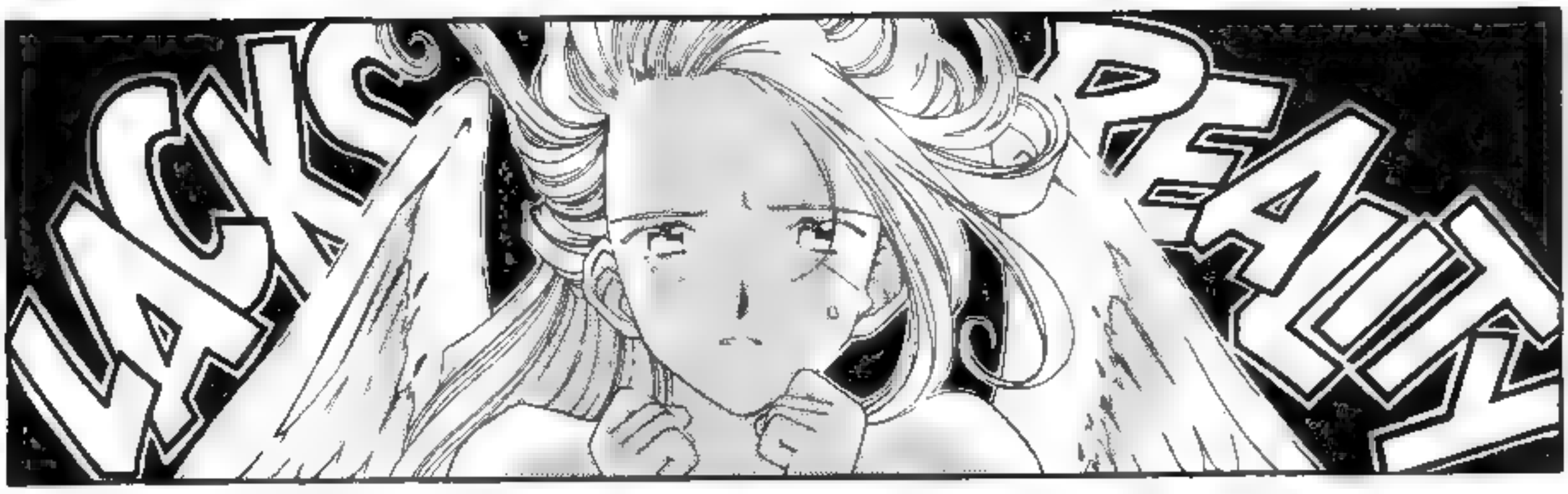
SO ...?

SLRBB

FWSSH

Come Forth My Angel, Blessed Bell!

THE MOLDING ISN'T VERY GOOD. LACKS REALITY. I CAN SEE THE ZIPPER, TOO.


LAST PAIN

WAH!!

SHSSS

NOW WHAT SHOULD WE DO? IT'S STILL GROWING!
SLRRBB

I FIGURED THAT SORT OF STUFF WOULDN'T WORK.
WE GOTTA TRY SOME-THING REALLY FLASHY!

THIS IS A JOB FOR... SUPERURD!

CHECK IT OUT!

....

I KNEW IT--JUST STUPID MAGIC TRICKS.

?

SLRRRBB

URD! IT'S HAVING THE OPPOSITE EFFECT!

SA YOKO!

PLEASE!! TRUST IN ME!

ABOUT WHAT ...?

OOPS... I DIDN'T THINK THAT FAR AHEAD.

HAH! NOT THAT I WAS COUNTING ON YOU...

OH, *YEAH?!* AND WHAT GOOD DID *YOU* DO, HUH, URD?!

I'M OUTTA HERE. SEE YA.

SO?! YOU THINK *YOU* HELPED?

NNGRR... EVERYONE IN THE WORLD IS FULL OF LIES... *LIES!!*

HEY, SAYOKO!

WHAT'S WRONG?

MY LADY SEEMS IN A TERRIBLE MOOD.

...?! YOU'RE AN IMPOSTER.

HUH?

THE TOSHIYUKI I KNOW WOULD NEVER WORRY ABOUT ANOTHER PERSON.

HE'S A *SELFISH, NARCISSISTIC, ARROGANT CREEP.*

ACK!

WELL, IT'S ALL TRUE, BUT STILL... OUCH!

YANK

OW!
?!

SAYOKO!

STOP THAT!

COME ON! TAKE OFF THAT CHEESY MASK AND SHOW ME YOUR FACE, IMPOSTER!

OW
OW
YEOW!

HMPH!

NOW I KNOW YOUR LITTLE GAME.

HUH?

THE FACT THAT YOU CALL ME "SAYOKO"...

...PROVES I'M NOT THIS "SAYOKO" PERSON AT ALL!

SAYOKO, LISTEN TO ME! I--

OH! THAT'S IT--I SEE IT ALL, NOW!

YOU DON'T REALLY EXIST, EITHER!

THE *WHOLE WORLD* IS A LIE!

IT'S ALL A SICK ILLUSION!!

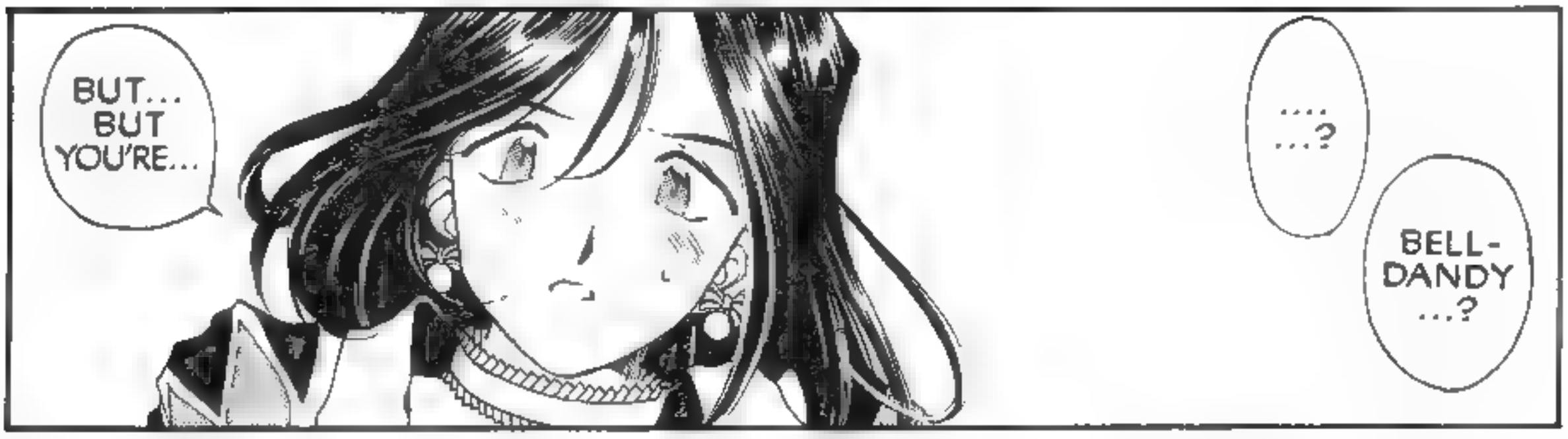
SAYOKO? WHERE ARE YOU GO--

SAYOKO! *DON'T!*

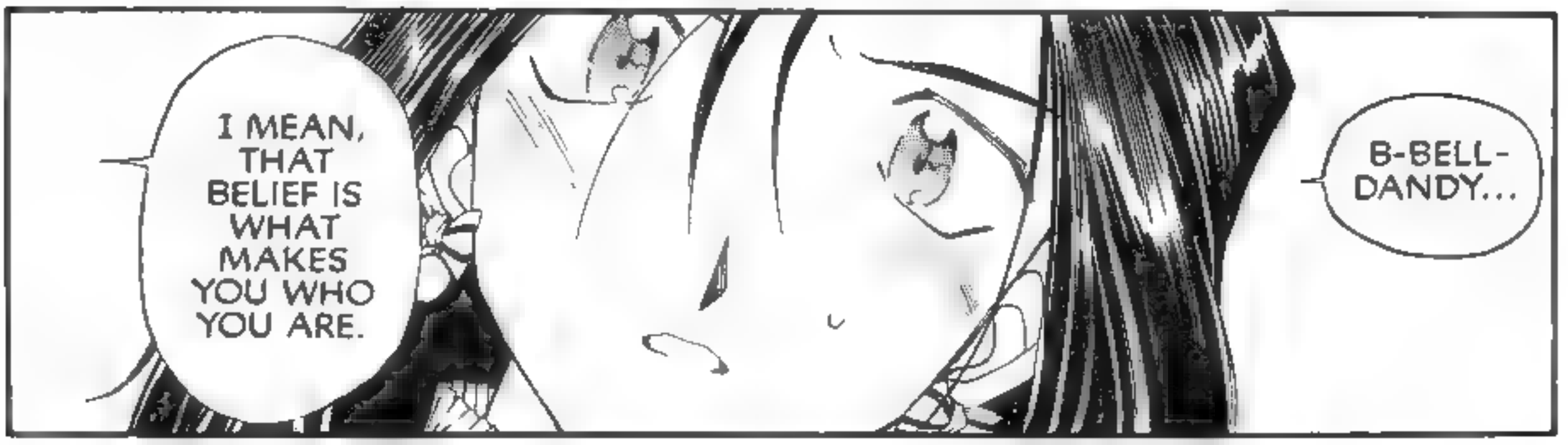
THA

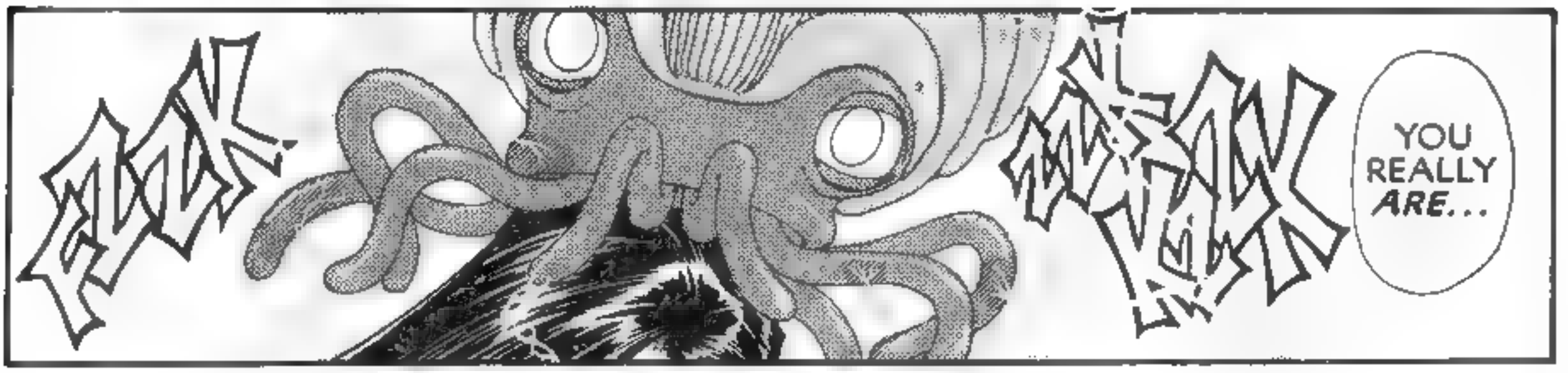
AND IF ALL THAT'S TRUE... THEN *I DON'T EXIST, EITHER!!*

OH?


BUT... BUT YOU'RE...
....?
BELL-DANDY ...?

SAYOKO... YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE I'M A GODDESS.
BUT DON'T STOP BELIEVING IN YOUR-SELF.


I MEAN, THAT BELIEF IS WHAT MAKES YOU WHO YOU ARE.
B-BELL-DANDY...


EEK
EEK
YOU REALLY ARE...

GOTCHA!

YOU REALLY PUT US THROUGH THE WRINGER, BUDDY.

URD'S GONNA MAKE YOU *PAY* FOR THAT!

SAYOKO ...?

DON'T WORRY. I WON'T TELL ANYONE.

I MEAN... WHO WOULD BELIEVE IT?

SO YOU REALLY *AREN'T* HUMAN, ARE YOU...?

...

SAYOKO...

BUT SHEESH... WHO'D A' THUNK IT? A *WITCH!*

B- BUT...

NEXT ISSUE: "HAIL TO THE CHIEF"

Letters to the Enchantress

10956 SE MAIN STREET, MILWAUKIE, OREGON 97222
www.darkhorse.com • omg@darkhorse.com • www.studioproteus.com

NOTE: Full addresses and e-mail addresses will not be printed unless you ask!

Whoops! I was hoping to have a big ol' Pen-Pal List for you readers this issue, but various circumstances (I ran out of time) kept that from happening. Keep reading — we'll have a super list of pen pals coming in the months ahead! If you want to be added to the Pen-Pal List, be sure to send your name, address, and (if you want) e-mail address and age. I've gone through a TON of old fan mail from all of you, and I'm afraid to print any of your addresses, because some of you might have moved by now! So, even if you've asked to be on the list before, send me your address again, and I'll make sure you make the list this time around! Deal?

Sooooo...contrary to what I said last issue, I'm going to print a bunch of your super fan art this month! Some of this stuff was sent to Dark Horse over a year ago (!), so I want to give extra-special thanks to the talented artists here for waiting so patiently to show off their work. And as for the rest of you, keep sending me your letters, artwork, and stuff! Every single letter (and there are MANY) gets read here!

See you next month, and remember to pick up *Super Manga Blast!* #1 in four short weeks for more *Oh My Goddess!*

— MikeH!

Fan Art

by Erik Van Y Burgos
Cavite, Philippines

NOTE: All fan artwork submitted becomes the property of Dark Horse Comics and will not be returned!

by Warren Lee
Vancouver, BC, Canada

by Wendy Wan
Den Haag, Holland

by Favio Montoya
Mazatlan, Mexico

Next Issue

In "Hail to the Chief" part 1, a woman suddenly appears at the Auto Club who is dauntingly good at all things automotive. It turns out she is the legendary first manager of the club, and before Keiichi knows it, he's been challenged to a race — one he thinks will determine whether he's qualified to succeed Tamiya as head of the club himself!

DARK HORSE COMICS

Manga

KOSUKE FUJISHIMA'S

Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

OH MY GODDESS! PART VIII 4

HAIL TO THE CHIEF 1 OF 3

$2.95 US

DIRECT SALES

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

Oh My Goddess! part 8

story and art by
KOSUKE FUJISHIMA

translated by
DANA LEWIS and TOREN SMITH

lettering and re-touch by
SUSIE LEE and PC ORZ

cover by
KOSUKE FUJISHIMA

designer
AMY ARENDTS

editor
MIKE HANSEN

publisher
MIKE RICHARDSON

English version produced by Studio Proteus for Dark Horse Comics, Inc.

Keiichi Morisato
Nekomi Tech student who dialed a wrong number and unwittingly summoned the goddess Belldandy.
Belldandy
Goddess First Class (Unlimited). Very loving, very kind.
Urd
Goddess Second Class (Limited). Belldandy's big sister. Very sexy, very naughty.
Skuld
Goddess Second Class (Limited). Belldandy's little sister. Very smart, slightly bratty.
The Almighty
Almighty.

The story so far:

College student Keiichi Morisato accidentally dialed a wrong number and summoned the goddess Belldandy! After granting Keiichi's wish that she stay with him forever, Belldandy and her sisters, Urd and Skuld, are living with him — and having plenty of misadventures! Now, as head of his school's motor club, Keiichi is about to learn there's more to his job than he thought...

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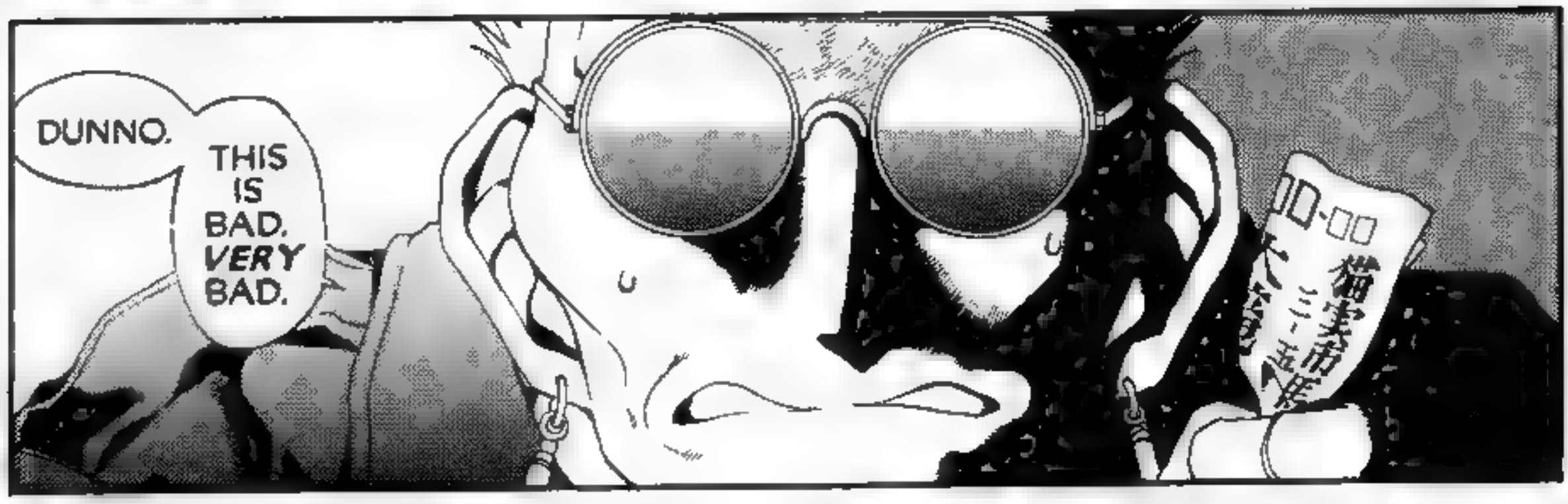
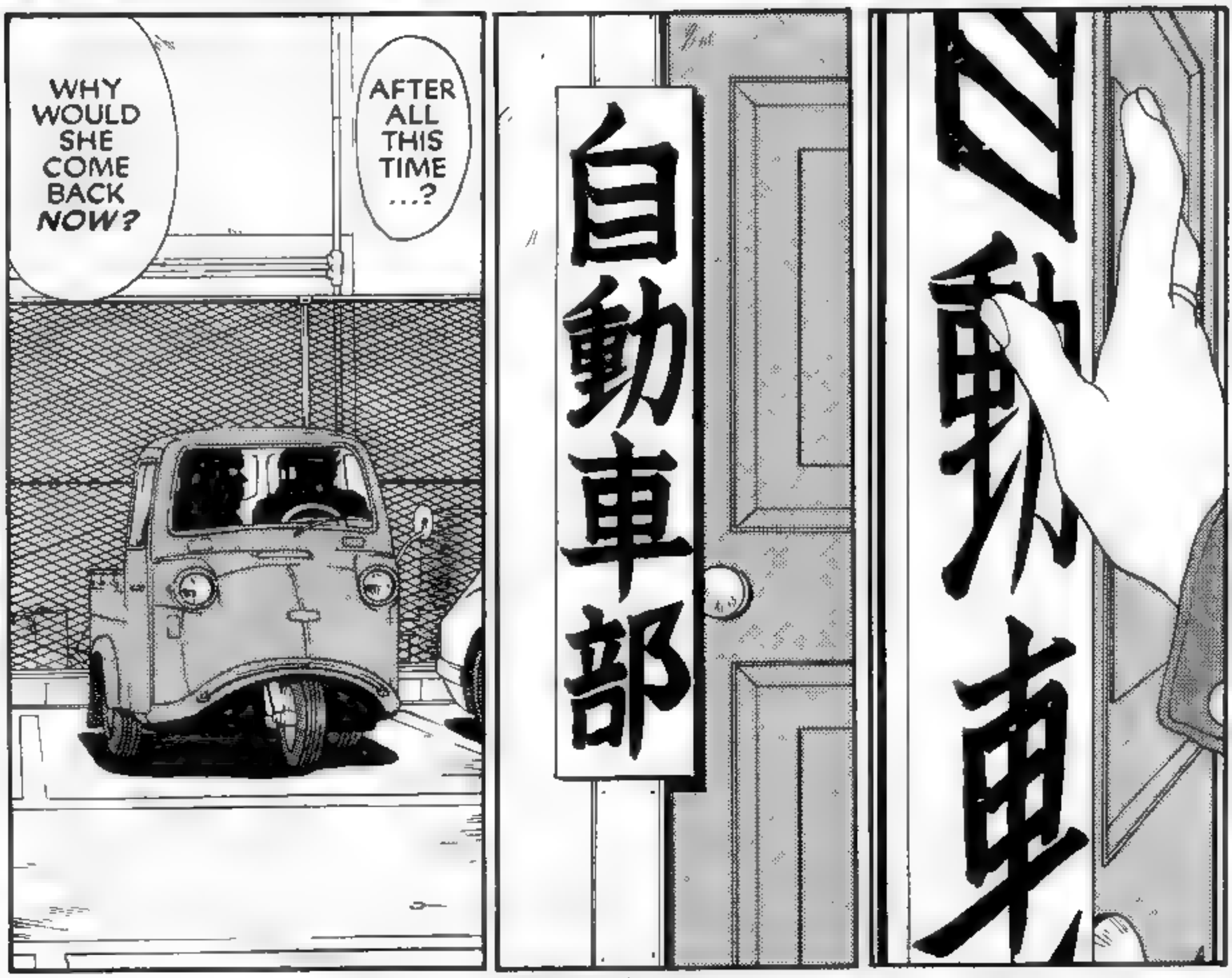
HAIL TO THE CHIEF





SIGN· MOTOR CLUB

YO!

IT'S BEEN AGES.

自動車部

.....

HOW ARE YOU DOING, OLD FRIEND?

?

A SOCIAL VENUE FOR GENTLE-FOLK

NEW CLUBHOUSE!

WE'VE RELOCATED!

ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE FEMALE GENDER ♥

WE ALWAYS WELCOME NEW MEMBERS ♥

NOTE! SPECIAL SERVICE! EXTRA PERKS!

(ASK FOR DETAILS IN PERSON)

CONTACT: KRICHI MORISATO

(OLD LOCATION)

HERE

A NEW CLUB HOUSE?!

ALL RIGHT, TAMIYA AND OTAKI!!

BTM

WHO GAVE YOU PERMISSION TO MOVE THE CLUB?!

OOPS.

THAT'S RIGHT... THEY *GRADU-ATED,* DIDN'T THEY.

UH... ER...

OHH ?!

IT... IT'S...

BEAUTIFUL!!

WHAT A *SUPERB* RADIO CONTROL MOTOR-CYCLE!

WELL, ACTUALLY... WE'RE GOING TO *RIDE* IT.

THIS TINY THING ...?

=ahem= WELL, YOU SEE... OUR INTENTION IS TO "EXPLORE THE FULL POTENTIAL OF THE SMALLEST FEASIBLE INTERNAL COMBUSTION PERSONAL PROPULSION SYSTEM."

OH, YEAH?

HEH... WELL, THAT'S WHAT WE TOLD THE GRANT COMMITTEE, ANYWAY!

ACTUALLY, WE JUST THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FUN TO SEE IF A PERSON COULD RIDE A BIKE POWERED BY AN *RC*-TYPE ENGINE.

....
....

=mmph=

=mnf=

B-OO

BWA HAW HAW!

=mmph!= S-SO *SIMPLE?* JUST LIKE *THAT?!*

OH *GAWD!* I'M *DYIN'!* *HAW HAW* =koff= =koff=

YEAH. THAT'S RIGHT. IT'S *SIMPLE.*

AND WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING SIMPLE AND STRAIGHT-FORWARD? EH?

BECAUSE IT'S FUN.

NOW, *THAT...*

...IS A PERFECTLY GOOD REASON TO DO *ANYTHING.*

....
....

I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY.

I DIDN'T... I MEAN, I WASN'T MAKING FUN OF YOU.

IT'S JUST, ONCE UPON A TIME...

...I KNEW SOMEONE ELSE WHO SAID THE EXACT SAME THING YOU DID. THAT WAS ALL.

I *LIKE* YOU, BOY.

I LIKE THE *FIRE* IN YOUR EYES.

WHAT DO YOU DO IN THE CLUB? AND WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

N...

NEKOMI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MOTOR CLUB DIRECTOR, KEIICHI MORISATO.

I SEE.

YOU, HUH ...?

RIGHT, THEN.

THINK I'LL MAKE ONE OF THESE, TOO.

WILL YOU RACE ME WHEN IT'S DONE?

?!

WH- *WHY?*

"WHY," YOU ASK?

JUST A LITTLE *TEST...* OR SOME-THING LIKE THAT.

"*TEST*"...? WHAT RIGHT HAVE YOU GOT TO--

I THINK THAT WOULD BE *WONDER-FUL.*

INSTEAD OF JUST ONE BIKE AND ONE DESIGN...

...I'M SURE IT WOULD BE MORE FUN TO HAVE *TWO.*

DIDN'T YOU SAY "BECAUSE IT'S FUN"...

...IS A GOOD ENOUGH REASON TO DO *ANYTHING* ...?

WELL...

YEAH.

CAN'T SAY "NO" TO THAT SMILE..

HA HA HA HA!

I LOVE IT! YOU GUYS ARE *GREAT!*

IT MAKES ME WANT TO RACE YOU EVEN *MORE.*

AND SO WE SHALL-- *TWO DAYS FROM NOW.*

T- *TWO DAYS?!*

PAST NEKOMI TECH MOTOR CLUB DIRECTOR...

CHIHIRO FUJIMI.

NICE TO MEET Y'ALL.

THAT DOESN'T WORK FOR YOU...?

WELL... UH... I MEAN...

LOOK-- WHO THE HECK *ARE* YOU?

OH, RIGHT.

SORRY. I DIDN'T SAY, DID I?

WHA-- *NO WAY!*

ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE NEKOMI TECH MOTOR CLUB...

MISS FUJIMI TOOK THE ENFEEBLED AND USELESS NEKOMI TECH AUTOMOBILE FAN CLUB UNDER HER CONTROL...

...AND SWIFTLY RESTRUCTURED IT INTO THE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION WE NOW KNOW AS THE *N.I.T.* MOTOR CLUB...

...THUS BECOMING THE EFFECTIVE FOUNDER AND FIRST DIRECTOR ALL IN ONE.

SINCE GRADUATION SHE'S BEEN ON THE RACING TEAM OF A LEADING MOTORCYCLE MANUFACTURER...

...IT SAYS HERE.

B-BOSS... YOU REALLY THINK YOU AND US CAN BEAT HER...?

WHO KNOWS?

I DUNNO...

IT'S JUST...

GACK! WE'RE GOING UP AGAINST A *REAL* PRO?!

I *REALLY* FEEL LIKE RACING WITH HER NOW.

GOING UP AGAINST THE FOUNDER AND FIRST DIRECTOR OF THE CLUB... YEAH.

POWER BOOSTER.

IN THAT CASE, LET'S PLAN A *BIG* CELEBRATION FOR IF WE WIN!

YAHOO!

CAKE!

I'LL BAKE UP MY *SPECIAL* TRIPLE-LAYER CAKE! ❤

A *TEST*, SHE SAID.

"CHECKING IF I'M QUALIFIED TO LEAD THE CLUB, PERHAPS ...?"

KLIK VREEEE

VRMMB

VRMMMMMMM

KRAUSER

KRAUSER

OKAY, TAMIYA... OTAKI.

I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE. COME ON OUT.

....
....

SSH

YOUSE GOT IT WRONG, MIZ DIRECTOR SIR MA'AM.

YEAH, WE'VE BEEN LOOKIN' ALL OVER FOR YOU!

....
....

"LOOKING ALL OVER," HERE IN THESE BUSHES, HUH?

IT GIVES ME THE CREEPS WHEN YOU TWO TRY TO ACT INNOCENT. SO CUT IT OUT.

I MUST SAY IT SEEMS YOU'VE FOUND SOME VERY CAPABLE PEOPLE.

BUT ENOUGH OF THAT.

LOOKS LIKE I'LL REALLY HAVE TO THROW MYSELF INTO THE FIGHT.

THANKS, GUYS. YOU DID GOOD.

...!

PRAISE! WORDS OF PRAISE FROM OUR GREAT LEADER! *=sniff=*

OH, RIGHT... ALMOST FORGOT.

ABOUT MOVING THE CLUB WITHOUT MY PERMISSION ...?

I'LL LISTEN TO YOUR PATHETIC EXCUSES LATER.

AAH... SUCH KINDNESS AND BENEVOLENCE FROM THE LADY FUJIMI...!

TWO DAYS LATER

THAP THAP

BRUPP

SCREEK

BRAPPABRAPPA

ALL RIGHT! TWO CIRCUITS AROUND THE CAMPUS!

WIN OR LOSE

BOTH RACERS, *WATCH OUT FOR PEDESTRIANS!*

SET!

GO!

GO, BOSS!

CAKE! CAKE!

GIVE IT YOUR BEST, BOTH OF YOU...!

BUT...

...I'M STILL ROOTING FOR MY DEAR KEIICHI. ❤

YOW!!

WHAZZA!?

NOT THE DAMN MOTOR CLUB AGAIN?!

LOOK AT HER PULL AHEAD!

WHAT DID SHE DO?! BLUEPRINT THE DARN ENGINE?!

BRAAAP

THISSSS

SHK

KRAAAA

WAY TO GO, BOY-- NICKED THE WALL!!

YEEP! TOO CLOSE!

MAYBE I'M PUSHING A BIT TOO HARD...?

KE-I-CHUU!

DO YOUR BEST!!

THE RACE HAS JUST BEGUN!!

YEAH!

THANKS, BELL! ❤

HMM... IF *THAT* DOESN'T PUT SOME FIRE IN YOUR BELLY, *NOTHING* WILL, MY BOY!

HUH?

WAIT A SEC... WASN'T SHE JUST AT THE STARTING LINE...?

GO, KEIICHI!!

HEY?! NO WAY!

NOTICE

DON'T GIVE UP!

WELL, I'M GONNA GNE UP THINKING ABOUT IT!

AND YET... AS THEY ENTERED THE SECOND CIRCUIT, BELLDANDY'S ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERLEADING WAS SO FAR ALL FOR NAUGHT.

AH! THERE SHE IS!

BUT EVEN SO, KEIICHI DID NOT LOSE HOPE.

IT'S ALL RIGHT... DON'T PANIC...

JUST KEEP UP THE PACE.

IT'S NOT AS IF I DIDN'T GUESS YOU'D TUNE YOUR ENGINE TO THE MAX.

BUT TUNING IS A BALANCING ACT...

...BETWEEN *POWER* AND *ENDUR-ANCE.*

KCHAK

AND IF YOU'RE GETTING THAT MUCH PEAK *BHP**... SOMEWHERE, SOMETIME, YOU'RE GONNA *BREAK DOWN!*

*: BRAKE HORSEPOWER

ABSOLUTELY!

WELL, PROBABLY...

RRG... HURRY UP AND *BLOW,* ALREADY!!

!!

HAH! *GOTCHA!*

HUH?

NO WAY!

A *SPARE ENGINE ...?!*

BRUM

VRRAAAA

ARGH! I'VE BEEN *TRICKED!* AN *ENGINE CHANGE!*

TRUE, THE RULES DON'T *PROHIBIT* IT....

...BUT WHO'D HAVE *DREAMED* SHE COULD DO IT FAST ENOUGH TO EVEN MAKE IT WORTH-WHILE?

COME ON, KID! NOW THE RACE *REALLY* BEGINS!

EH?

THE LAST CORNER *ALREADY?!*

FINISH

NOW!!

BRAKE!

W-
WHOA!! THE BOSS!

HE'S AHEAD!!

YOU DID GOOD, KID, BUT...

DARN DARN DARN! I STAYED ON THE BRAKE TOO LONG!

THE CHECKERED FLAG ANOINTS THE VICTOR...

...AND SALUTES ALL WHO FOUGHT SO BRAVELY.

YOU WERE WONDERFUL... BOTH OF YOU.

WELL, MORISATO...

THANKS.

YOU GAVE ME SOME GOOD THINGS TO REMEMBER FOR A CHANGE.

ALL KINDS OF THINGS...

"WAY BACK WHEN, I SPENT EVERY DAY COVERED IN OIL.

"MY ORDINARY FRIENDS ALL WORRIED ABOUT ME."

CHIHIRO! WHY ARE YOU SPENDING ALL THIS TIME AND EFFORT ON THAT SILLY FAN CLUB?

HEY, BECAUSE IT'S *FUN!*

"I GUESS I NEVER THOUGHT I'D HEAR THOSE WORDS AGAIN."

BECAUSE IT'S FUN.

COME TO THINK OF IT, WHAT ABOUT THE TEST...?

"TEST" ...?

YOU PASSED THAT TEST THE DAY I MET YOU.

THIS TEST WAS FOR *ME.*

DON'T TELL ME I FAILED AND HAVE TO QUIT THE MOTOR CLUB...

OH, PUH-*LEASE!* DON'T BE SILLY.

AND THANKS TO YOU, I'VE MADE UP MY MIND.

I'M GOING TO QUIT THE TEAM, AND START MAKING THE KIND OF BIKES *I* WANT TO MAKE.

NOT AS A WAY OF *WINNING.*

BUT JUST AS A WAY OF *HAVING FUN.*

YES... YES!

HUH?

YES!! THAT'S IT! THAT'S PERFECT!

THAT'S WHAT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO, TOO!

WELL, KEIICHI...

...SOME-HOW I KNEW YOU'D SAY THAT.

?! HEY!

WHAT?

UH?

:sob: THEY ATE IT ALL!

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN YOU'D STILL JUST BE A PAIR OF GREEDY SLOBS!!

NEXT ISSUE: "FOREVER GRRLS"

DARK HORSE COMICS

Manga

KOSUKE FUJISHIMA'S

Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

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HAIL TO THE CHIEF

Oh My Goddess! part 8

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MIKE RICHARDSON

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Tamiya
Muscular Motor Club member. Not too bright, very emotional.
Keiichi Morisato
Nekom. Tech student who d aled a wrong number and unwittingly summoned the goddess Belidandy.
Motor Club member. Barely smarter than Tamiya.
Belldandy
Goddess First Class (Unlimited). Very loving, very kind
Chihiro Fujimi
Former head of Nekomi Tech Motor Club.
Urd
Goddess Second Class (Limited). Belldandy's big sister. Very sexy, very naughty
Sora Hasegawa
Motor Club member. Very smart, very shy.
Skuld
Goddess Second Class (Limited). Belldandy's little sister. Very smart, slightly bratty
The Almighty
Almighty.

The story so far:

College student Keiichi Morisato accidentally dialed a wrong number and summoned the goddess Belldandy! After granting Keiichi's wish that she stay with him forever, Belldandy and her sisters, Urd and Skuld, are living with him — and having plenty of misadventures! Now, as head of his school's motor club, Keiichi has won the respect of former head Chihiro Fujimi. But she's got some secrets from her past that may soon come back to haunt her...

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FOREVER GRRLS

M.C.C.
COME ON, EVERY-BODY! TODAY WE'RE GONNA...
...CLEAN THE OLD MOTOR CLUB CLUB-HOUSE!

WHAT'S WRONG?! WHY THE LONG FACES?
WELL...

'CAUSE OF THE SHORT MONEY.
HUH ...?

HEY-- ALL THE *MORE* REASON TO CLEAN UP!

HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

BECAUSE, KIDDO, WHO KNOWS *WHAT* MIGHT TURN UP!

MAYBE... JUST *MAYBE...*

...THERE MIGHT BE *TREASURE!*

SIMPLE HEARTS, SIMPLE MINDS.

OH...
I NEARLY FORGOT.

TAMIYA! OTAKI! *YOU* HELP, TOO!

ulp!

YES, LADY CHIHIRO!!

HEE HEE

HMM... I DON'T GET IT.

WHY ARE THOSE BIG LUGS SO AFRAID OF CHIHIRO?

I WANT TO ASK HER, BUT...

...WHAT IF SHE'S THE SORT OF WOMAN WHO CAN KNOCK OUT A BEAR WITH A SINGLE PUNCH? AS THE SAYING GOES...

AND YET... I STILL WANT TO.

THEN AGAIN..

KEIICHI, WATCH YOUR STEP, ALL RIGHT?

COME ON! FASTER, FASTER!

SURE, SURE.

=sighh= THERE'S NOTHING VALUABLE HERE AT *ALL.*

YOU THINK SO...? TO ME, *EVERYTHING* LOOKS SO WONDERFUL.

EVERY PIECE PACKED WITH THE SCRAPS OF DREAMS...

OH, MY ...?

ISN'T THAT ...?

KTAK

WHAT?! D-DID YOU ACTUALLY *FIND* SOME-THING?!

YES.

A PIGGY BANK!

WOW!

WOW. ¥325.

...

A BIT ON THE LOW SIDE.

HMM... MAYBE CHIHIRO WAS JUST LEADING US ON?

YAHG!

EPSON PRINTER

CHAK

SKSKSK

SPX

YEEP!

whewf! THAT WAS *CLOSE!*

YAK

BONK

YAIEE!

IT FIGURES!

KEIICHI ?!

WHO

S'OKAY. NO PROB.

OWW..

HUH ...?

OH ...!

H- HEY... IT LOOKS LIKE...

...A TREASURE MAP ...?!

ORG?!

HEY... ISN'T THAT--

BACK TO WORK, YOU TWO. *NOW.*

HUP-HO! HUP-HO!

SEE? YOU *DID* FIND SOME-THING GOOD!

WELL, UH, MAYBE. WE DON'T *KNOW* IT'S A TREASURE MAP...

NO... SHE'S RIGHT.

I CAN SENSE FROM THIS MAP THAT SOMETHING IMPORTANT *IS* HIDDEN HERE.

HMM... THAT GIRL SAYS THE STRANGEST THINGS SOME-TIMES...

ALL RIGHT! IF THAT'S THE CASE, LET'S DECODE IT!

YEAH!!

DIS... DIS IS *BAD.*

HEY, WE HID IT THERE OURSELVES, RIGHT?

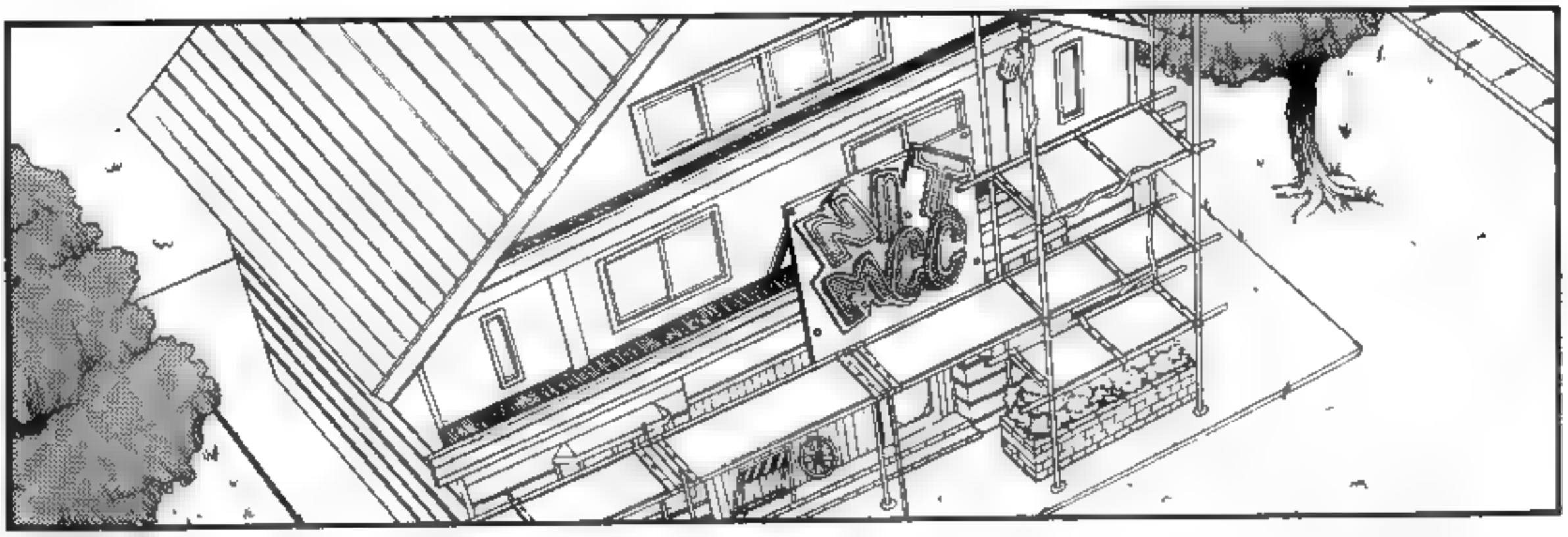
YEAH!! SO WE JUS' GOTTA GO GEDDIT *FOIST!*

RIGHT! SO-- WHERE IS IT?!

YUH DON' REMEMBUH ...?

YOU, EITHER ...?

....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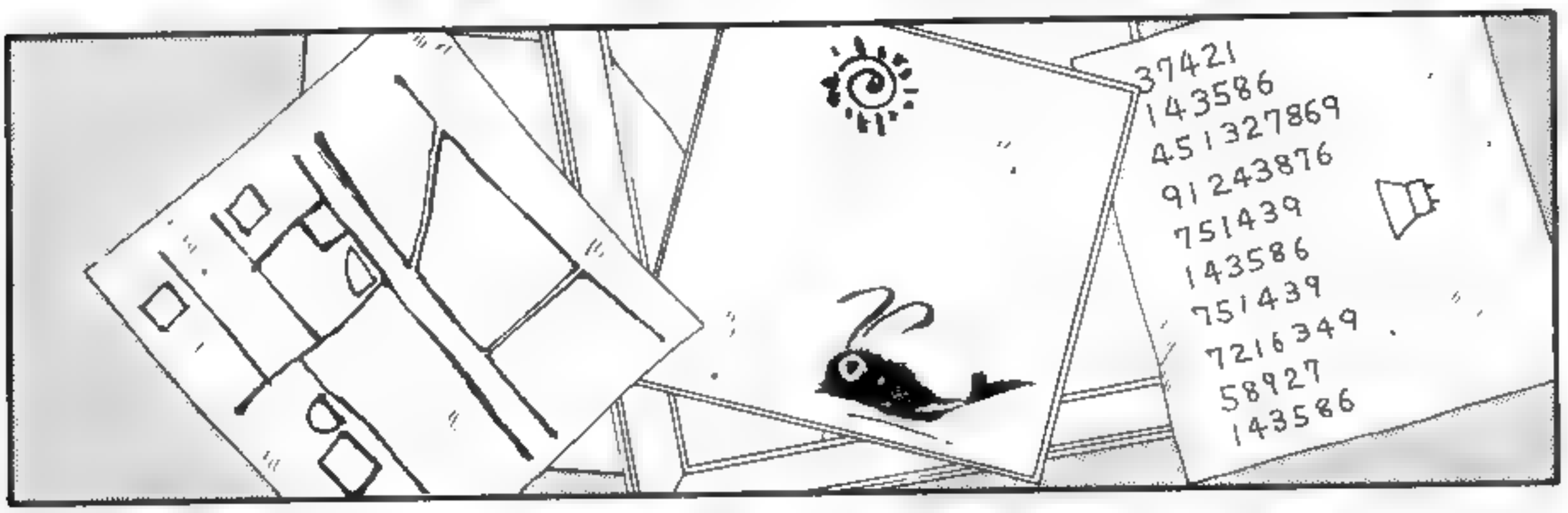
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751439
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143586

YEESH ...!
THIS MAP DOESN'T TELL US WHERE TO START, OR THE GOAL!

ALL THESE NUMBERS...

SAY! MAYBE IT'S THE NUMBER OF STEPS TO TAKE?

C'MON! EVEN IF YOU COULD WALK THE FIRST THIRTY-THOUSAND STEPS...

...WHAT ABOUT THE NEXT *FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE MILLION?*

OH YEAH RIGHT.

DID YOU FIND ANY-THING, SORA?

NOT REALLY, BUT... LET'S ADD THEM UP.

LET'S SEE...

THIRTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE, PLUS...

ONE HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIX, PLUS...

FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE MILLION THREE HUNDRED TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND EIGHT...

HEY!

D-DON'T TELL ME--?!

WHAT? *WHAT?!*

THIS CALCULATOR DOESN'T GO THAT HIGH.

JUST EIGHT DIGITS.

HMM... IN *THAT* CASE, IT MEANS...

THE TOTAL IS FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTEEN THOUSAND AND SEVENTY-EIGHT.

OOOOOOOOOH!

...I *REALLY* DON'T UNDER-STAND.

OH, SORA... NOT AGAIN!

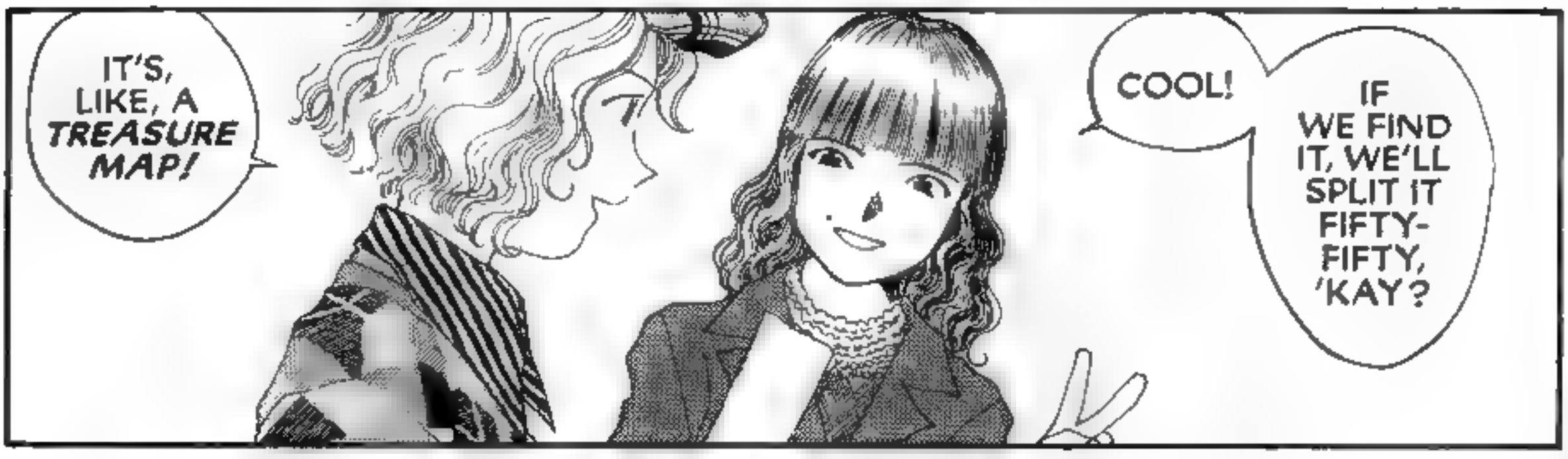
SAY... WHY NOT JUST LOOK FOR A MATCH ON THE CAMPUS MAP...?

GOOD IDEA!

WH...
WHAT THE HECK?!

....
....

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? THIS MAP DOESN'T TELL YOU WHERE TO START.
YEAH. AND WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THESE NUMBERS?


IT'S, LIKE, A TREASURE MAP!
COOL!
IF WE FIND IT, WE'LL SPLIT IT FIFTY-FIFTY, 'KAY?

HOW DID *THIS* HAPPEN?

STEP RIGHT UP!

JUST FIVE BUCKS A COPY!

T'ANKS A HEAP, PAL!

WELL, I GUESS.. FOR FIVE BUCKS..

JEEZ... EVEN IF WE DONE IT WHEN WE WAS DRUNK...

YEAH... WHO'D A' THOUGHT WE'D *FORGET?*

IN ANY CASE, DIS WAY WE GETS SOMEONE ELSE TUH FIND IT...

...AND THEN WE TAKE IT BACK BEFORE THEY OPEN THE BOX.

PLUS, DUH SALES MONEY IS ALL OURS, HEH, HEH!

OUR "EVIL MASTER PLAN" IS *PERFECT!*

COOL - WE'RE LIKE THE BAD GUYS IN A SAMURAI MOVIE..

NIT MCC

RATS! RATS!!

BLACK

NO... NO... CALM DOWN...

HOW ABOUT DIFFERENTIAL CRYPTANALYSIS? IF IT'S SYMMETRIC *DES* ALGORITHMS...

AND NOT IDEA™ OR CAST...

YOU'RE LOSING IT, KIDDO.

NO WAY IT'S THAT HARD!

BESIDES, THEY'RE NOT GOING TO FIND IT THAT EASILY, ANYWAY.

WHO EVEN SAID THE MAP SHOWS THIS CAMPUS?

THEN... THEN *WE* CAN'T FIND IT, EITHER ...?

WELL, uh... MAYBE NOT.

HMM... IT MUST BE TAMIYA AND OTAKI SELLING THOSE MAPS.

LATER THEY SHALL REQUIRE... *DISCIPLINE.*

GLEEP! THEN SHE REALLY *CAN* PUNCH OUT A BEAR! *TWO* BEARS!

BUT WHY ARE TAMIYA AND OTAKI SO AFRAID OF YOU, MISS FUJIMI?

OH, THAT ...?

OH, *VERY* SUBTLE, SORA HASE-GAWA!

MY DEAR...

YES, MA'AM?!

THERE ARE MORE THINGS IN HEAVEN AND EARTH, HASEGAWA, THAN ARE DREAMT OF IN YOUR PHILOSOPHY.

HUH?

WHAT?!

TAK TAK

OH ...?!

LOOK, KEIICHI!

EH ...?!

THE MAP AND THE PRINT *OVERLAP!*

I GET IT! SO THE WHALE IS THE STARTING POINT!

THAT'S RIGHT!!

WE DID IT!

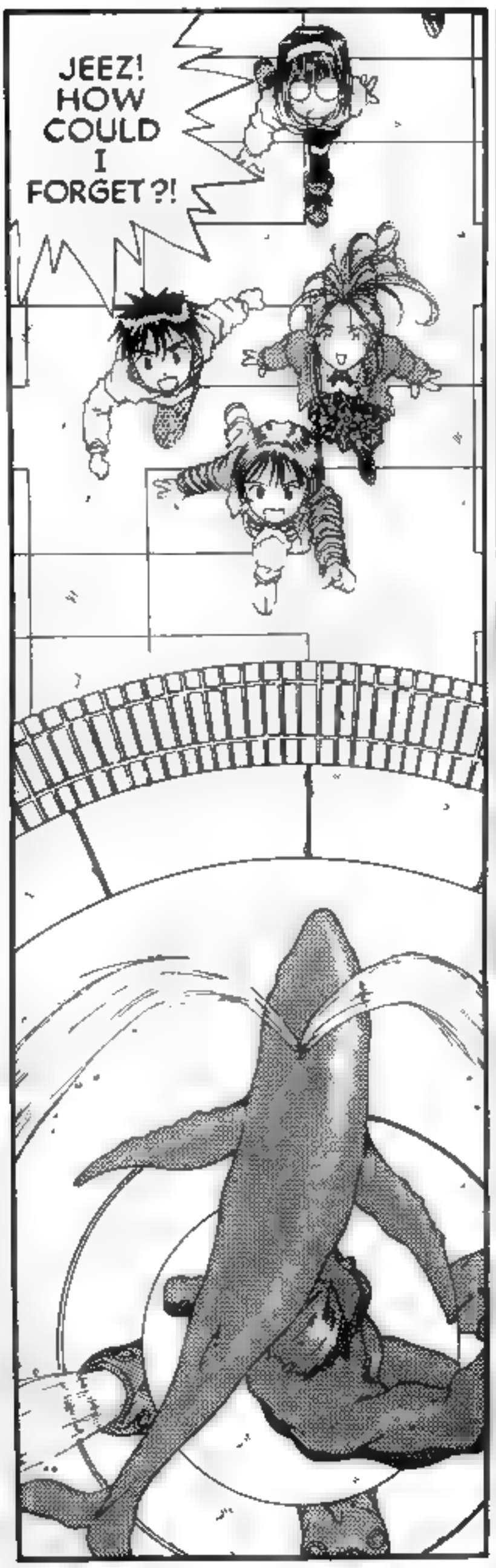
SO WHERE IS THERE A *WHALE* ON CAMPUS ...?

UM... ??

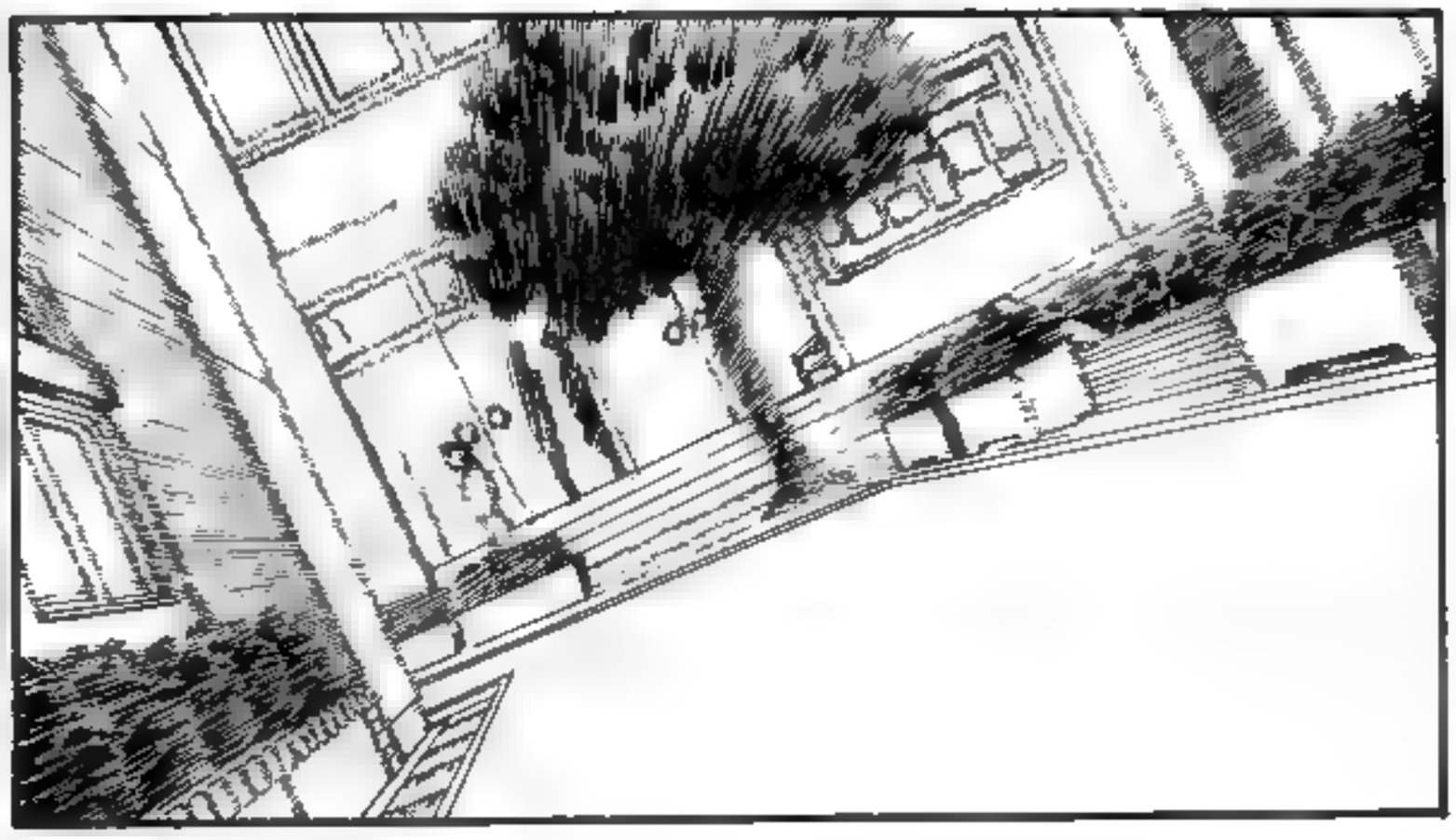
I KNOW.

AND SO SHOULD YOU!

SEE?


JEEZ! HOW COULD I FORGET?!

GREAT! NOW THAT WE KNOW WHERE TO START... WE'RE HOME FREE!



HERE! *THIS BUILDING!*

SO, LIKE... *WHERE* IN THIS BUILDING?

OOP...

THE... THE *NUMBERS* MUST TELL US THAT PART!

AH!

WHAT? WHAT?

WHAT DO THEY SAY?

WELL... ONE HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIX OCCURS *THREE* TIMES.

SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE, *TWICE.*

143586
4513278 69
9124387 6
751439
143586
751439
7216349
58927
14358

IN OTHER WORDS--

THESE SETS OF NUMBERS HAVE IDENTICAL MEANINGS IN THE CODE.

RRG! THAT'S *MY* LINE!

AH!

OF COURSE!

SMAK

I REMEMBER THIS FROM WHEN I WAS A KID!

LOOK AT THIS, MISTER MORISATO!

WHEN YOU PUT IN 7, 5, 1, 4, 3, 9...

AND THEN LOOK AT IT *UPSIDE DOWN,* THEY LOOK LIKE LETTERS! SEE?

AHEM

SORA! YOU'RE *INCREDI-BLE!*

SO HOW DO YOU READ IT?

ER... "GEH... HEE... ZLL" ...? ???

IT DOESN'T MEAN A DARN THING!

....
....

SORA, MAY I BORROW THAT?

SURE... HERE.

?

7, 5, 1, 4, 3, 9... AH. I THOUGHT SO.

beep beep beep beep beep beep

15 1439

HERE-- LOOK AT THE POSITION OF THE KEYS I PUNCHED.

7 8 9
4 5 6
1 2 3

DOESN'T THAT LOOK LIKE THE LETTER "K"...?

OHH!!

SO LET US START AGAIN, FROM THE TOP!

3, 7, 4, 2, 1...

7 8
4 5 6
1 2 3

THAT MAKES AN "L".

...

APPLIED CRYPTOGRAPHY 101
with Professor Belldandy

LABOKAKUTA

AND SO, WHEN YOU DECIPHER ALL OF IT...

THE ONE THING I DON'T UNDER-STAND IS THE MARK.

FIRE

THAT ONE I KNOW, BELL!

KAKUTA LABS

TODAY'S EXPERIMENTS:

WHAM

WHAT TH--?! MORISATO ?!

WHO ARE ALL THESE PEOPLE?!

ON AN ELECTRIC CIRCUIT CHART, THAT MEANS...

THERE'S A *SPEAKER* THERE!

MORISATO! I ASKED YOU A *QUESTION!*

YAHOO!

HERE IT IS!

WE DID IT!

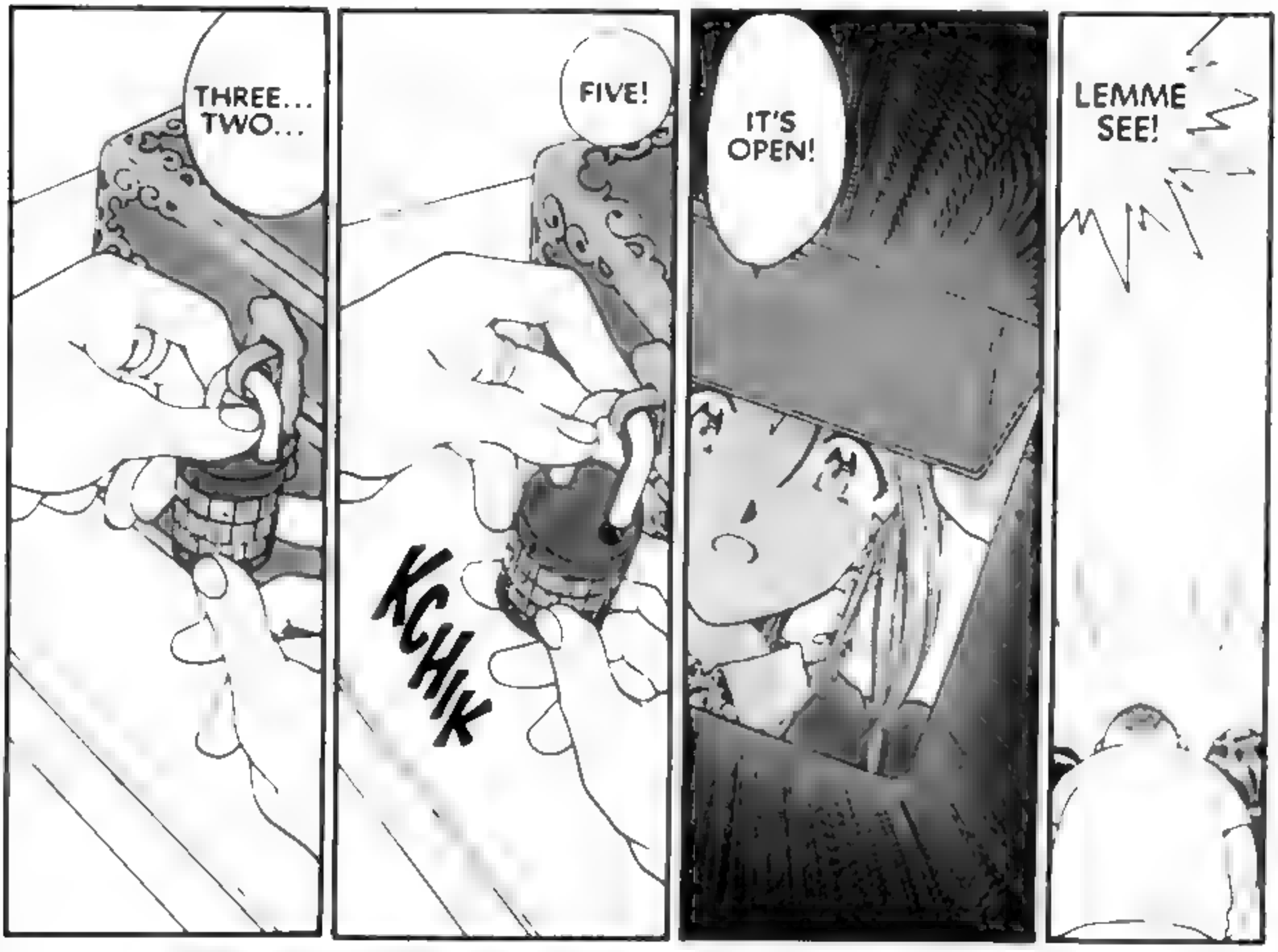
BUT... IT'S *LOCKED.*

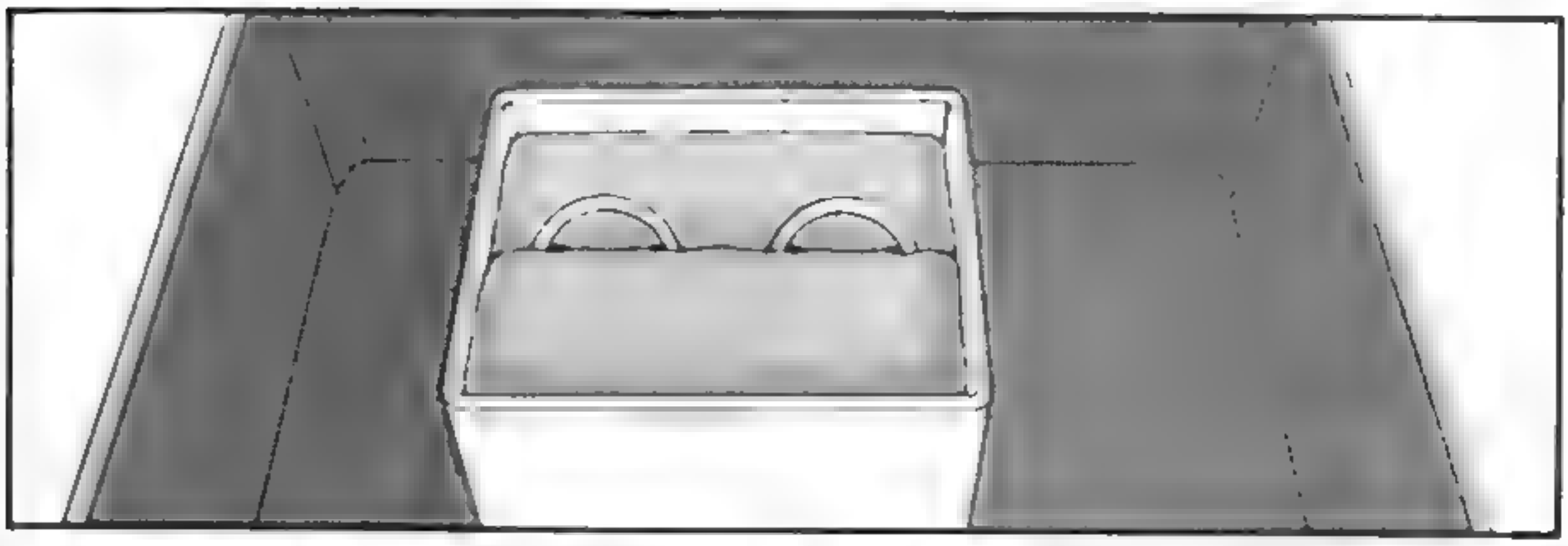
UH-OH!

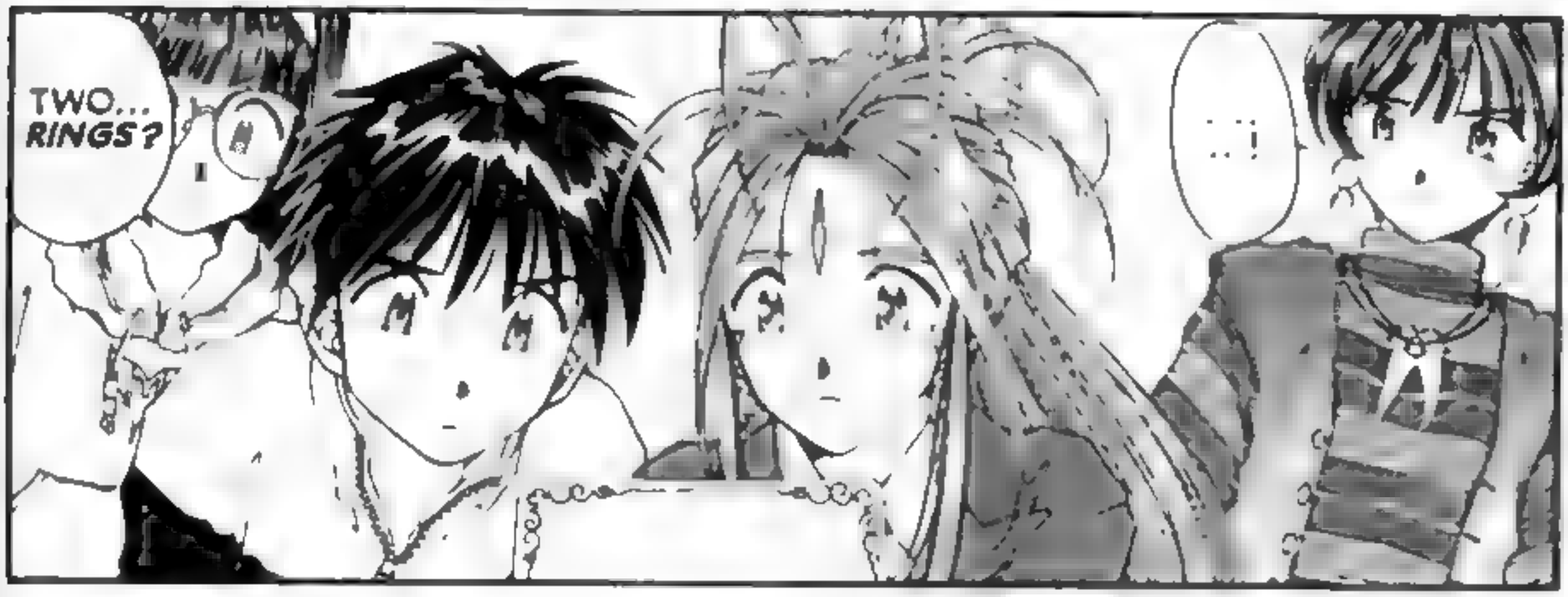
OH...? THIS DRAWING ...!

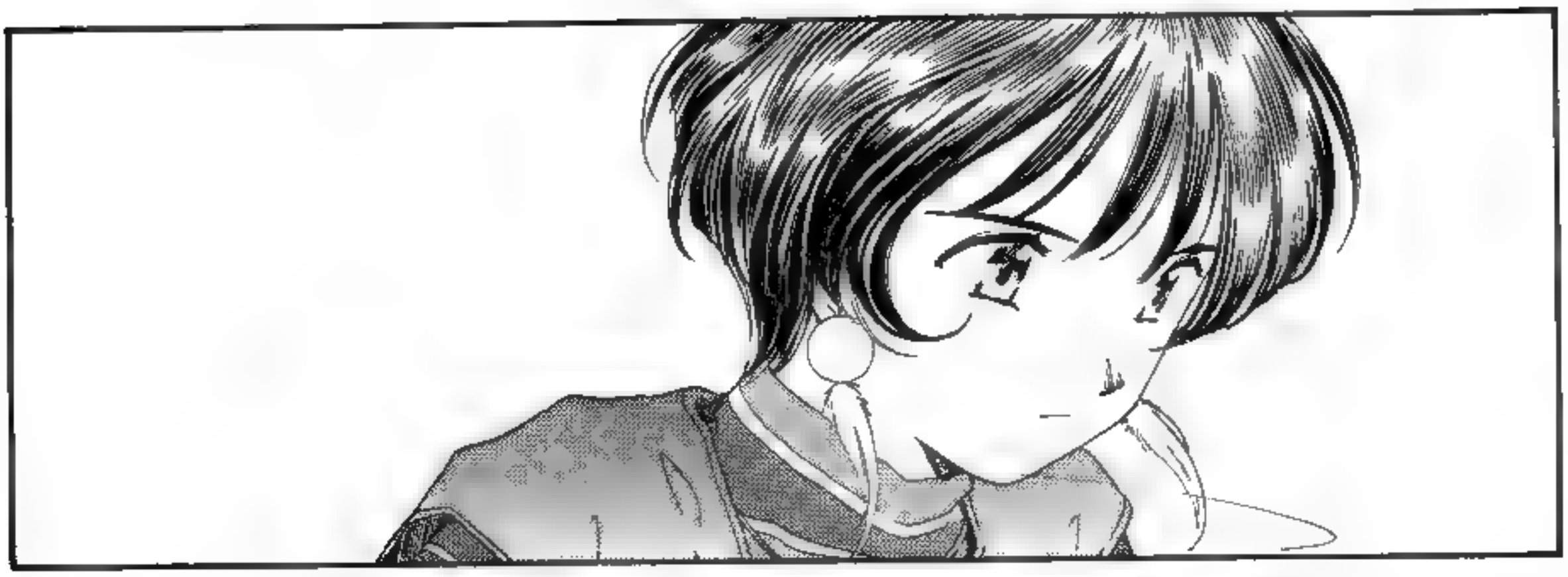
I THINK I CAN OPEN THIS.

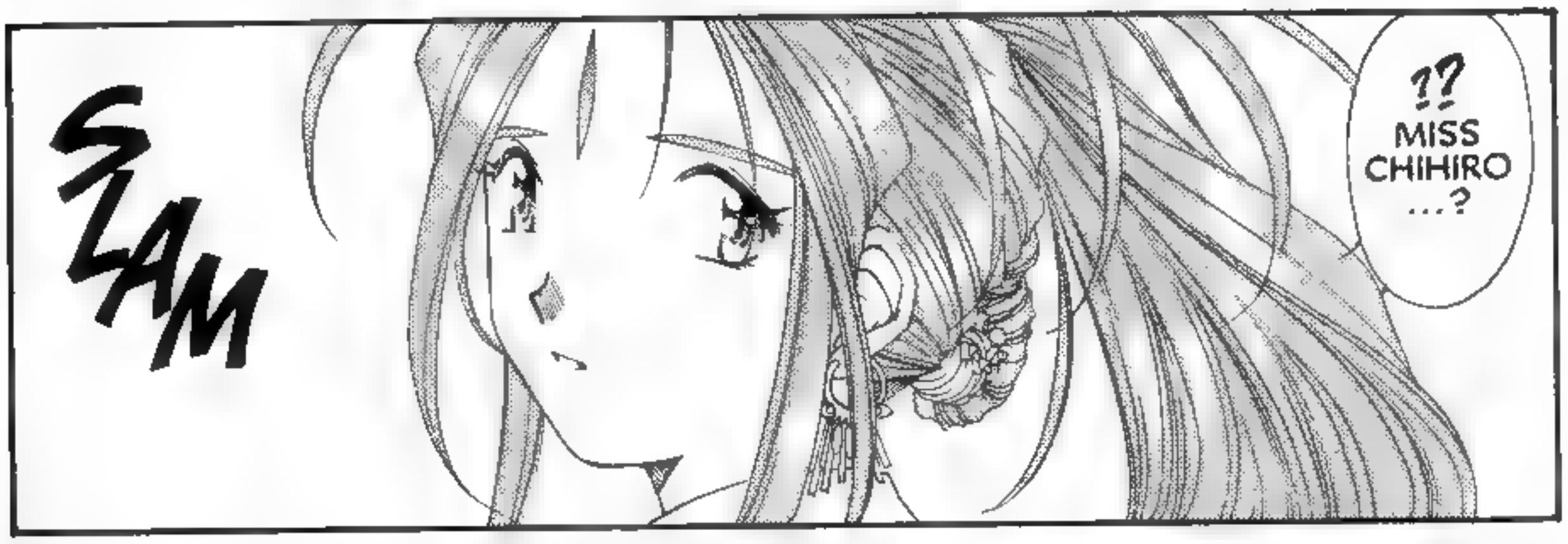
REALLY ?!

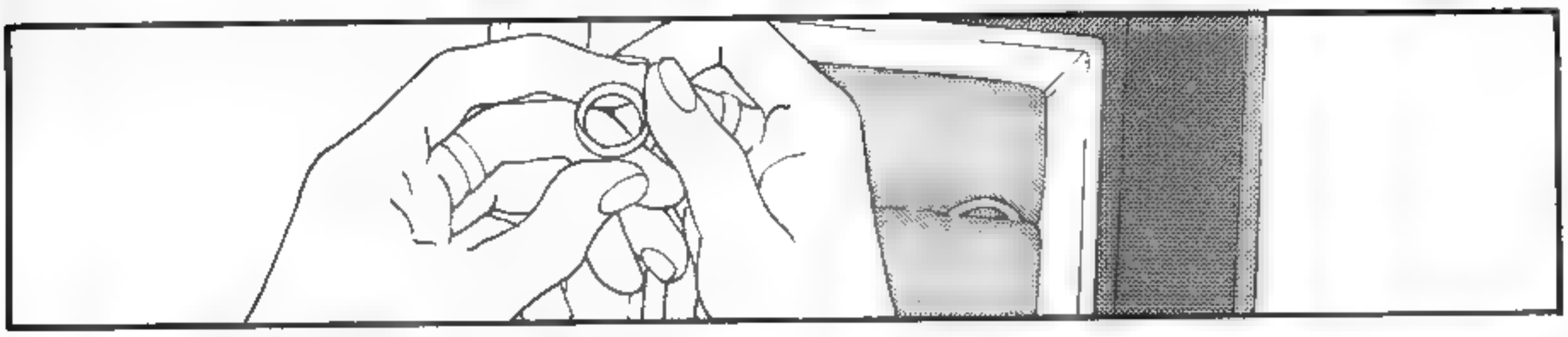

THREE...
TWO...
FIVE!
KCHIK
IT'S OPEN!
LEMME SEE!



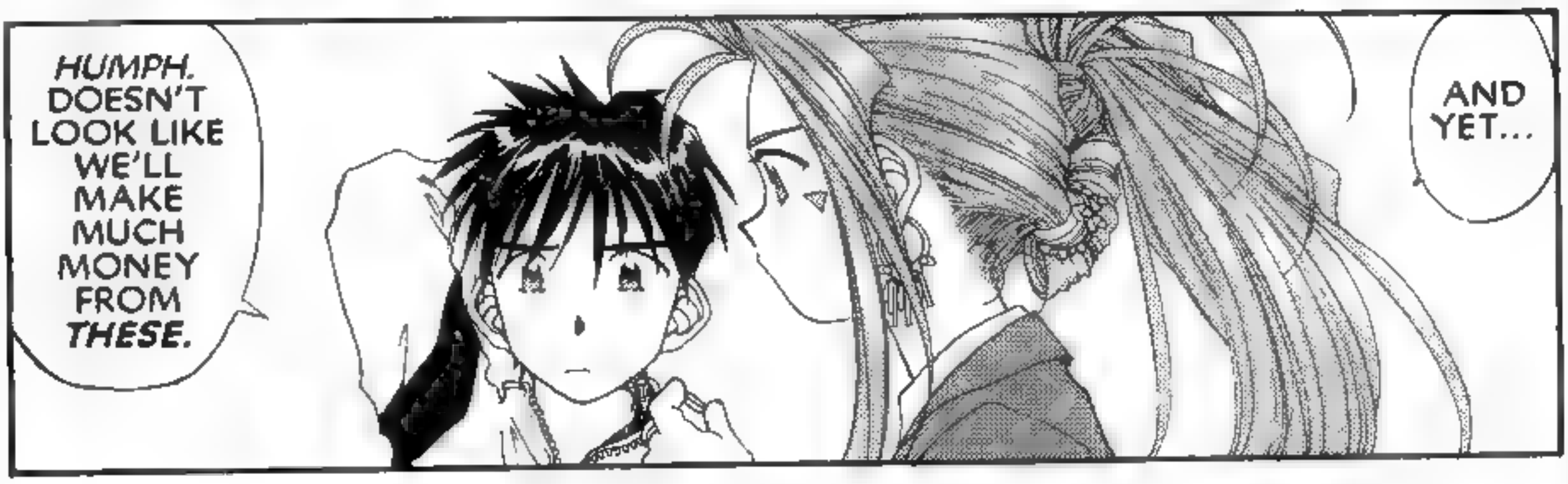

TWO... RINGS?
. . . !




SLAM
!?
MISS CHIHIRO ...?



OH...


HUMPH. DOESN'T LOOK LIKE WE'LL MAKE MUCH MONEY FROM THESE.
AND YET...

THEY GLOW WITH LOVE

KEEP THESE RINGS?

MAY I BORROW THEM?

HUH? SURE!

MISS CHIMERO!?

THESE ARE *YOURS*... AREN'T THEY?

YOUR NAME'S ENGRAVED INSIDE.

CHIHIRO

IS IT ALL SO CLEAR TO YOU?

HEH... HOW EMBAR-RASSING.

THOSE RINGS... TWO DIFFERENT MEN GAVE THEM TO ME, SEE?

BUT I'M SO CRUEL... *SIGH.*

I COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN THEM.

AND SO ...?

I SAID I'D DATE THE WINNER...

...AND THEN I MADE THEM PLAY "STRIP" *SCISSORS, PAPER, STONE* UNTIL THEY WERE *BUCK NAKED!*

EEK!♡

...!

ANYWAY, IN THE END...

...I CHOSE THE GOOD OF THE CLUB OVER THEIR LOVE.

I TOLD THEM THAT RATHER THAN DISRUPT THE CLUB'S HARMONY, I WOULD JUST... YOU KNOW.

AND I *DON'T* REGRET IT... NOT ANYMORE!

IT'S JUST THAT, IT'S *WEIRD,* YOU KNOW? EVEN NOW, THEY STILL WORRY ABOUT IT.

SO THEY GET ALL GOOFY WHEN THEY'RE AROUND ME.

I GUESS THEY'RE WORRIED SOME-ONE'LL FIND OUT.

THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG.

IT'S BECAUSE THEY STILL LOVE YOU.

SEE THIS RING KEIICHI GAVE ME...?

AND THESE TWO RINGS-- THEY *RESONATE.*

SHINNGG

WHAT THOSE TWO FEAR NOW ISN'T *YOU*, CHIHIRO.

IT'S *THEMSELVES*. THEY FEAR THAT THEY CAN'T CONTROL THEIR FEELINGS FOR YOU.

HEH... AN INCURABLE ROMANTIC...

...AREN'T YOU?

YES. I'M A *GIRL*, SO...

....
....

WELL, I'M A BIT OLD TO BE A "GIRL."

REALLY? BUT HOW OLD CAN YOU BE...

...AND STILL BE A GIRL-- AT HEART?

....

"ONE-LOVE"...! GAME, SET AND MATCH TO BELL-DANDY!

HA HA HA

....
....

TAMIYA!

OTAKI!

ULP!

WE DONE PASSED OUT SO MANY OF DEM MAPS....

YEAH! WE WON'T KNOW *WHO'S* GONNA FIND THEM!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE DONE WELL...

...FOR YOUR-SELVES.

N-NO, MA'AM! IT'S... uh... IT'S ALL FOR DUH MOTOR CLUB BUDGET!

Y-YEAH! THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S ALL FOR LOVE OF THE *CLUB*, MA'AM!

REALLY? THEN I'LL HOLD ON TO IT, SHALL I?

=sigh= YES'M.

OH... ONE MORE THING.

YOU GOT IT *ALL*, WE *SWEAR!*

TAMIYA... OTAKI ...?

MA'AM ?

THE MONEY IN YOUR *BACK* POCKETS, TOO.

SUCCUBUS.

NO-- *THESE.*

I'LL KEEP THESE AS... *TROPHIES OF WAR.*

GOOD...

IDEA...

...

"A WOMAN IN LOVE..."

"...IS A GIRL FOREVER!"

MEANWHILE...

...THE BAFFLED MOB, MAPS IN HAND...

...WANDERED HOPE-LESSLY THROUGH THE NIGHT...

NEXT ISSUE: "LIVE TO WORK, WORK TO LIVE!"